

BULLETIN

of the

AMERICAN DAHLIA SOCIETY

MAY - 1959

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A. D. S. and New Jersey Stage 1959 Joint Show Here

Located at the intersection of Routes 4 and 17, the vast shopping center can be reached easily from many directions by bus or car. Surrounding this 50-acre, New Jersey Garden State Plaza are parking facilities for 6,000 cars. The cloverleaf formed by the junction of Routes 4 and 17, bottom center has become a symbol of Garden State Plaza. The auditorium, where show will be staged is 88 by 45 feet, giving ample room for the show.

DAHLIA SHOWS ACROSS THE NATION

(If your show is not listed, or incompletely listed, send details for August Bulletin)

Date	Society	Place	City
Aug. 1- 2	San Diego Dahlia Society	Recital Hall, Balboa Pk.	San Diego, Calif.
Aug. 15-16	Inglewood Dahlia Society	Armory, Grosvenor St.	Inglewood, Calif.
Aug. 20-23	Kitsap Co. Dahlia Society	Kitsap Co. Fair Grounds	Bremerton, Wash.
Aug. 22-23	Snohomish Co. Dahlia Soc.	Floral Hall, Forest Pk.	Everett, Wash.
Aug. 22-23	East Bay Dahlia Society	New Garden Cen., Lakeside Pk.	Oakland, Calif.
Aug. 29-30	San Leandro Dahlia Society	Bancroft Jun. High School	San Leandro, Calif.
Aug. 29-30	Seattle Dahlia Society (Host to Pacific Northwest Conference)	Green Lake Field House	Seattle, Wash.
Aug. 29-30	Orange Co. Dahlia Society	Wilton Hotel	Long Beach, Calif.
Sept. 5- 6	Wash. State Dahlia Society	Norman Hall	Tacoma, Wash.
Sept. 5- 6	Wisconsin Dahlia Society		Milwaukee, Wis.
Sept. 5- 6	North Jersey Dahlia Society	Grange Hall, Hamburg Tw'p.	Wayne, N. J.
Sept. 6- 7	Minn. Dahlia Society	Minn. State Fair Grounds	Minneapolis, Minn.
Sept. 6- 7	Badger State Dahlia Society	Community Center	Madison, Wis.
Sept. 9-10	Conn. State Dah. Soc. (NEW)	Waterbury Shopping Cen.	Waterbury, Conn.
Sept. 13	Southern Tier Dahlia Society	Mark Twain Hotel	Elmira, N. Y.
Sept. 12-13	Greater Pittsburgh Dahlia Soc. (Host to Mid-West Show and Conference)	Penn-Sheraton Hotel	Pittsburgh, Pa.
Sept. 12-13	Southeastern Mich. Dah. Soc.	O'Shea Memorial Gym.	Detroit, Mich.
Sept. 14-15	Dahlia Society of Ohio	Higbee Auditorium	Cleveland, Ohio
Sept. 16-17	Burholme Hort. Society	Cheltenham Fed. & Loan Ass'n	Philadelphia, Pa.
Sept. 20	Rochester Dahlia Society	Museum of Arts & Sciences	Rochester, N. Y.
Sept. 19-20	Long Island Dahlia Society	Green Acres Shop. Center	Valley Stream, N. Y.
Sept. 19-20	Bergen Co. Dahlia Society	Bergen Mall, Exhib. Hall	Paramus, N. J.
Sept. 19-20	Dahlia Society of Tenn.	East Ridge Town Hall	Chattanooga, Tenn.
Sept. 19-20	Dahlia Society of Kentucky	Kentucky Hotel	Louisville, Ky.
Sept. 19-20	Greater Philadelphia D. Soc.	W.C.A.U.—TV Center	Philadelphia, Pa.
Sept. 19-20	Baltimore Dahlia Society	Eastport Auditorium	Baltimore, Md.
Sept. 19-20	Scioto Valley Dahlia Soc.	Ross Co., Fair Grounds	Chillicothe, Ohio
Sept. 23-24	American Dahlia Society and Dahlia Society of N. J.	Garden State Plaza Lower Level, Building "F"	Paramus, N. J.
Sept. 26-27	Dahlia Society of Alabama	Thomas Jefferson Hotel	Birmingham, Ala.
Sept. 26-27	Ohio Valley Dahlia Ass'n	Cin. Art Museum, Eden Park	Cincinnati, Ohio
Sept. 26-27	National Capital Dahlia Soc.	U. S. Botanic Garden	Washington, D. C.
Oct. 3- 4	Dahlia Society of Georgia (Host to Southern States Association)	Southeastern Fair Grounds	Atlanta, Ga.
Oct. 3- 4	Greater Kansas City Dah. Soc.	Shawnee Fed. & Loan Ass'n	Johnson Co., Kan.

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Membership dues in the American Dahlia Society, \$4.00 per year, of which \$3.00 is for the annual subscription to the Bulletin of the American Dahlia Society, published quarterly.

Send membership dues to the Treasurer of the Society, Harry Dreyer, 431 Lincoln Avenue, Ridgewood, N. J.

Address all editorial and advertising copy to the
Editor - - LYNN B. DUDLEY
25 Irving Place, New Rochelle, N. Y.

VIRUS DISEASES OF THE DAHLIA

By Roland A. Mildner, Jr.*

Virus diseases are the chief limiting factors in dahlia production. All other diseases and pests, indeed all other problems concerning dahlia growing are insignificant by comparison. These statements are based on correspondence and discussion with many plant inspection officers, horticulturists, and plant pathologists, along with careful personal observations. Moreover, the situation is confounded by the refusal of growers, both professional and amateur, to admit that the problem exists. Witness the following, lifted from a popular account of dahlia growing:

"Virus affected plants have come to my garden from outside on several occasions but some seem to be growing out of it. Sometimes they fail to make any growth after storage but in three cases the virus is definitely going and the plants are now to all appearances healthy, though dwarfed. In three others the cure is continuing, two plants having it quite badly. I have, therefore, some basis for my belief that virus is not a disease from without but a disorder within and that it can be caused by bad methods of cultivation. . . .

"I am watching carefully and am coming to the conclusion that I do, or fail to do, something to the baby plant. I have had affected and unaffected plants from the same root clump but also I have had three or four plants go down badly within a few feet of each other in one particular position two years running while the varieties have been healthy elsewhere. . . .

So far virus is a mystery but I am convinced that it is developed in the plant due to faulty handling and is not 'caught' like measles. The amateur is just as likely to find the answer as the trained scientist.

"Unless you, my reader, are prepared to experiment with the cure of virus-affected plants you are still advised to grub up and burn all that reach you. So long as you are running your garden organically and propagating your own plants I feel sure that you need never fear virus."

—Smith, N., "Dahlias for All."
Faber & Faber, London. 1952.

This book had a wide circulation in the United States. Rebuttals and careful analyses were published in more rarefied journals, seldom if ever seen by growers.

Dahlia Diseases Cause Heavy Damage

Many authoritative accounts give further testimony of the widespread and increasing occurrence of dahlia virus diseases. Virus diseases are causing heavy and increasing losses to commercial growers in the United States. Some varieties of dahlias appear to be from 60 to 100 per cent infected (13, 15, 24). This situation is true also in other areas of the world. (Smith 30) suggests that the commercial dahlia growers in England are threatened with disaster because of these viruses. Limasset (17) indicates that the \$75 million per year commercial dahlia industry in France merits much study and attention because of virus diseases. Wilson (33) reports dahlia mosaic as having spread so rapidly in the three years from 1948 to 1950 that it is one of the most serious and widely distributed diseases of the dahlia in New South Wales. Boyer (4) feels that these diseases are of alarming proportions in the United States, with dahlia ringspot increasing rapidly. In 1950 Brierly and Smith (7) wrote that tomato spotted wilt, which induced most if not all of the ring and oakleaf patterns in the United States, had become more prevalent in dahlias.

* The author wishes to thank Dr. Robert Scheffer of Michigan State University for many helpful suggestions. Numbers in () refer to Authorities quoted. See Aug. '59 Bulletin.

All members of the genus *Dahlia* are susceptible to virus diseases. However, some varieties are less affected than others (5, 13). Thus, the need of a thorough, objective examination of the situation is evident. In the following discussion an attempt is made to review completely the present knowledge of dahlia virus diseases, and to point out some possible solutions to our problems.

Dahlia Mosaic Virus

Dahlia mosaic virus (*Marmor dahliae* Holmes) apparently is found wherever dahlias are grown. It was first reported in this country in 1916 by Norton (25), and since then has become very common, as indicated above. Miller (23) reported dahlia mosaic in Guatemala in 1950. Marini (20) points out that dahlia plantings in Italy were badly diseased for some years by several viruses, among them dahlia mosaic. Gillman (11) observed dahlia mosaic for the first time in Madagascar in 1946. Wilson (33) found that dahlia mosaic was very abundant in New South Wales. The report of extensive research on dahlia virus diseases in Scotland (27) suggests that more than a slight problem exists there. Dahlia mosaic was serious and widespread in Denmark (10) in 1946, and a report from the Dutch Phytopathological Service (15) indicates a very widespread dahlia virus disease problem there.

The symptoms of the dahlia mosaic virus are expressed in several ways. What may be the most reliable symptom is known as vein banding (Fig. 1). In this instance, the green coloration of the leaf develops irregularly, leaving narrow "bands" of a yellow or pale green color parallel to the midrib and/or side (branch) veins. This may tend to fade as the leaf matures. The extent

of the "band" will vary, depending upon the particular species or variety of dahlia in question. However, it often will remain uniform within a variety (5, 13). Another symptom on the leaf is a noticeable distortion. One side of the leaf may be longer than the other (Fig. 1). The leaves may be wrinkled or blistered in appearance. Under some circumstances, the leaf margins may curl downwards.

A characteristic symptom of the plant is a definite shortening of the internodes. This will often force the plant to produce side shoots, also with shortened internodes. As a result, the plant is very bushy in appearance. This latter condition is commonly called "stunt" (2).

Dahlias infected with mosaic will produce flowers of normal color but their stems often are shortened considerably. In some varieties, the flower heads may be smaller than normal or

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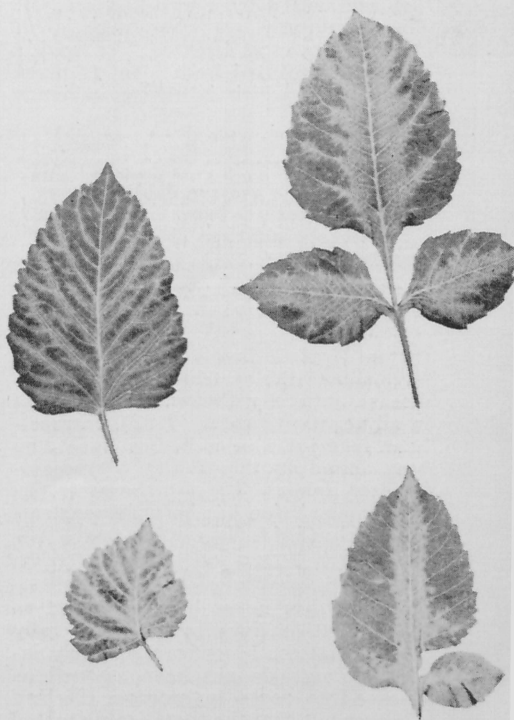


Figure 1. Dahlia Mosaic Virus infection is identified by vein banding in a mosaic pattern. Narrow "bands" of yellow or pale green colors are parallel to mid-ribs and/or side (branch) veins. Extent varies. One side of leaf may be longer than the other. Leaves may be wrinkled or blistered in appearance, and/or curl downwards.

Virus Diseases of the Dahlia (Cont'd)

the plant may not flower at all. In still other varieties, the flower coloration is changed (15).

These symptoms are variable, and any single symptom or combination of symptoms is liable to appear on a given plant. Some varieties are tolerant of the virus and show no symptoms at all. They are still reservoirs of the virus, however. Brierly (5) has observed that some varieties show a slight vein banding while other varieties may show all of the symptoms including a severe dwarfing. He also pointed out that dahlias with a mosaic record in the previous season may appear healthy during the first month after planting. Still later in the season, banding symptoms may become masked. Sometimes plants with symptoms will produce shoots that look normal. The reason for such reactions is not understood but appears to be characteristic of the disease. Cuttings taken from these apparently healthy shoots may show symptoms later.

There is little doubt that these troubles are caused by a virus, or viruses. The symptoms are characteristic of other known virus diseases. The trouble can be transmitted from plant to plant by grafting, which is strong evidence

It takes the average dahlia grower about two years to learn to brag about his blooms and then about 30 years to learn not to.

that a virus is involved. Experiments have shown the systemic nature of the disease, whereby the virus is present in all vegetative parts (5, 32). Intracellular inclusions or x bodies have also been found in the tissues of mosaic-infected dahlias (12). Furthermore, insect transmission has been demonstrated clearly (5, 14, 30).

Mosaic Maims, But Does Not Kill

Mosaic has never been observed to kill a plant outright, but it is generally agreed that the roots from severely infected plants do not keep as well as disease-free roots in storage. Nelson (24) reports that the roots from stunted

plants are often thickened and much shorter than those from healthy plants. White (32) found that virus mosaic infected dahlias never recovered and that all vegetative parts of the plant were diseased. He further stated that the virus did not pass into the seed nor did it persist in the soil.

The only known vectors of dahlia mosaic in nature are aphids, among which *Myzus persicae* (peach aphid) is of primary importance. Brierly and Smith (7) reported several other aphids which also transmit the virus: *Aphis fabae*, *Aphis gossypii*, *Myzus convolvuli* and *Macrosiphum gei*. Evidence shows that the virus can be obtained during a one-minute feeding period by *Myzus persicae* and is retained for three hours or less. Heinze (14) reported the following additional aphids as vectors: *Brachycandus helichrysi* (*Anurophis podi*), *Pergandeida cytisorum*, *Myzus ornatus*, *Rhopalomyzus ascalonicus*, *Myzodes ligustri*, *Cryptomyzus ribis*. The virus is carried by the insects and is injected into the plant during feeding.

Brierly and Smith (7) found that dahlia mosaic virus is mechanically transmissible with difficulty from dahlia to dahlia by leaf rubbing. However, if the virus is transmitted to zinnia, it is easily retransmitted from plant to plant. In *Verbesina*, also, it is easily transferred mechanically from plant to plant. Dahlia mosaic could not be transferred to cucumber nor was cucumber mosaic virus transmitted to dahlia by *Myzus persicae* or by leaf rubbing.

The physical properties of dahlia mosaic virus (as observed in *verbesina*) were determined by Brierly and Smith (7). Thermal inactivation was between 85° and 90°C; dilution end point was above 1 in 3,000; the virus was infectious in drying leaves after 10 days, but not after 14; infectious in crude sap extract after 28 days when stored at 18°C, but not after 35 days.

Source of Mosaic

The only known source of dahlia mosaic occurring in nature is mosaic-infected dahlias, although inoculation experiments have shown that *Sanvitalia procumbens*, *Verbesina encelioides*, *Zinnia elegans* and *Calendula* are susceptible, and *Coreopsis douglasii* is a symptomless carrier (7). These plants were successfully used for indexing purposes by Brierly (6) (see below).

As indicated above, the virus does not remain long in the vector. Therefore, the virus undoubtedly is perpetuated from season to season largely in stored roots.

Dahlia Ringspot Virus

Dahlia ringspot virus infection appears as irregular concentric rings, irregular zigzag markings, intricate hieroglyphic patterns and green islands (5) (Fig. 2). Nelson (24) reported that in the early stages of infection, the spots which later develop the ring pattern appear as scattered areas of yellow or light green tissue. They are usually seen on the older leaves. As the spots age, the ring pattern appears and may become very conspicuous. The old lesions may become necrotic and include a number of rings of a very characteristic appearance.

The symptoms of dahlia ringspot vary from pale green to yellow green become masked, making impossible a visual determination of infected plants. The size and number of expressed areas on a given leaf may vary considerably. The color of the chlorotic areas may vary from pale green to yellow green depending on the particular variety of dahlia, but it is rather uniform within a variety.

The plants are apparently not stunted, distorted, or otherwise markedly injured by this virus. However, if present in quantity, the markings detract considerably from the appearance of the plant. Plants of some varieties have been known to decline in vigor. Badly infected plants of a variety known as "The Commodore" were observed by this writer to be stunted in a planting near Millington, Michigan.

The vectors of dahlia ringspot are unknown. Nelson (24) indicates that insects may be agents of dissemination as the disease can spread rapidly through a planting. Brierly (5) was able to transmit dahlia ringspot by approach grafting, but not by mechanical means. The only known source of inoculum is infected dahlias.

Ringspots are caused also by the tomato spotted wilt virus (see below). This virus is thought to be the sole cause of ringspot in Europe.

Dahlia Yellow Ringspot Virus

Yellow ringspot virus cause bright yellow concentric rings and zigzag pat-

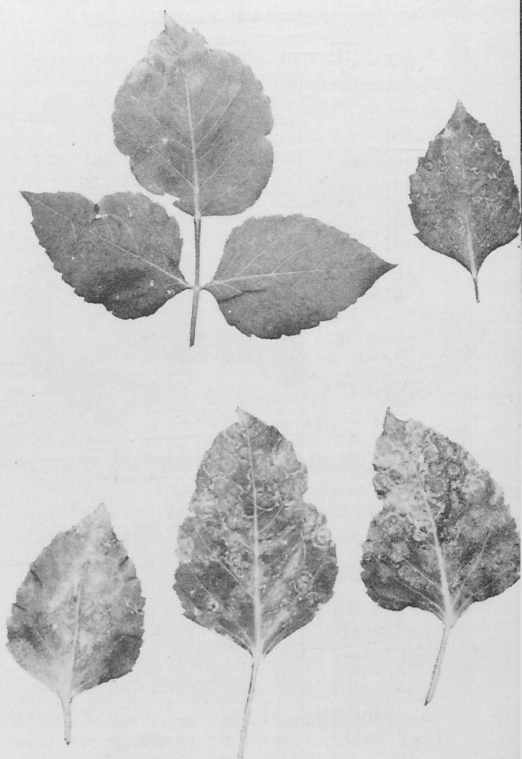


Figure 2. Dahlia Ringspot Virus.

This infection appears as irregular concentric rings, irregular zig-zag markings and/or intricate hieroglyphic patterns and green islands." Later the spots, which develop the ring patterns appear as scattered areas of yellow, or light green tissue. Still later a brown, dried area may be seen in the center of the "rings."

terns (5). The symptoms vary somewhat among different varieties of dahlias and may at times be characterized by a few rings or segments of rings near the tips of the leaflets.

The only known source of inoculum in nature is diseased dahlias. The vectors of dahlia yellow ringspot are unknown. Brierly (5) was successful in transmission to other dahlias by grafting but mechanical transmission failed.

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Virus Diseases of the Dahlia (Cont'd)

Very little work has been done on this virus and it is considered by Smith (31) to be a strain of dahlia ringspot virus.

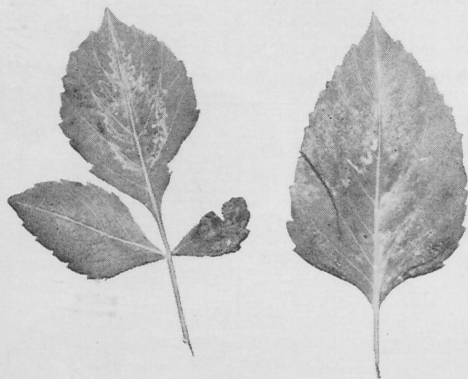


Figure 3. Dahlia Oakleaf Virus.

Symptoms may consist of poorly defined chlorotic rings or "Oakleaf" patterns on center face of leaves. This virus has been observed in fewer areas in the U. S. than either Mosaic or Ringspot Virus. Vectors, (carriers) are unknown and no research on this type of virus has been reported.

Dahlia Oakleaf Virus

The symptoms of oakleaf virus may consist either of poorly defined, chlorotic rings or "oakleaf" patterns (Fig. 3). These symptoms are commonly seen in Michigan (13), although positive identification of the oakleaf virus has never been made here.

Apparently Brierly (5) is the only person to have reported this virus and no further work has been done with it. He was able to transmit this virus by grafting. The vectors are unknown. It is possible that this disease is caused by a variant strain of other viruses.

Tomato Spotted Wilt Virus

Tomato spotted wilt virus (*Lethum australiense* Holmes) often attacks dahlias and may be confused with dahlia ringspot. All of the countries mentioned in the early part of this paper have reported tomato spotted wilt on dahlias in great abundance. In addition, Roland (26) reported that to-

mato spotted wilt is common in Belgium. McWhorter (22) and Holmes (16) maintain that spotted wilt is common in America. Furthermore, in McWhorter's opinion, this virus has "ridden around the world" in dahlia roots.

Symptoms of this virus consist of concentric rings, leaf spots and patterns on the leaves (30). The affected leaves may be smaller than normal and somewhat deformed. Color changes in the flower have been observed. The virus over-winters in the roots and is present in all vegetative parts. The roots may be retarded in development. Smith (28) found that the virus is not sap transmissible, but is transmitted by *Thrips tabaci*.

Tomato spotted wilt has an extensive host range, including the following: Arum lily, Aster, Chickweed (*Stellaria media*), Chrysanthemum, Dahlia, Gloxinia, Primula and Tomato. Dahlias have often been known to infect tomatoes with spotted wilt (22, 33). Baker (1) indicated extensive damage in California due to tomato spotted wilt virus. McWhorter (22) reported a serious dahlia virus problem, including tomato spotted wilt, in the western part of this country.

Cucumber Mosaic Virus

Cucumber mosaic virus (*Marmor cucumeris* Holmes), often found on dahlias and confused with ringspot, is as widely distributed as is tomato spotted wilt. It is not considered to be as severe on dahlias, but it is important because of the role that dahlias play in transmitting the virus to other hosts. The host range of cucumber mosaic is even more extensive than that of tomato spotted wilt.

Symptoms appear as light and dark green leaf mottling, but no blistering, no vein mosaic, and little or no leaf distortion (6, 30). According to Smith, the variety Bishop of Landoff is a symptomless carrier of the virus. Aphids are the vectors (30.).

Methods of Developing Virus-free Stock

Judging from results in Europe and from success with crops other than dahlia, the use of disease-free stock is by far the most satisfactory way of combatting virus diseases. How do we obtain such stock, and how do we keep it disease-free? First, we must have a means of detecting latent virus infec-

tions, and a positive test for each suspected virus. This is a job for research. Once such tests are devised, then many plants can be indexed, all virus-carrying plants can be destroyed, and only virus-free plants saved. These are propagated under conditions of isolation and maintained as a disease-free "mother" stock. To be most effective, such tests must be made practical for the commercial grower to use. Fortunately, some progress is being made towards a means of positive identification of viruses in dahlias. A brief account of this work follows.

Brierly (6) has developed an indexing method by which he inoculates plants which are sensitive to dahlia mosaic (*Zinnia elegans* and *Verbescina encelioides*) with sap obtained from suspected plants. If dahlia mosaic virus is present, test plants will show leaf distortion, vein clearing and dwarfing. Indexing detects latent or symptomless infections. These test plants also detect cucumber mosaic virus which is expressed as different symptoms.

Color Tests

Martin (21) devised a color test to determine the presence of mosaic virus. His test depends on a reaction of expressed plant sap with a decolorized solution of 2,6—dichlorophenol indol-phenol. A solution will turn bright blue in the presence of sap from diseased plants, but will remain clear in the presence of sap from healthy plants. Three to four thousand mature dahlia leaves and eight thousand roots were tested by this method. Those which gave a positive reaction were planted in a glasshouse, where symptoms appeared in every case. The test also worked with tobacco mosaic virus and potato virus Y in tobacco, which were detected within 42 hours of infection.

Cornuet, Martin and Limasset (9) reported a serological method of detecting dahlia mosaic virus. The virus was partially purified chemically and the resulting preparation injected into a rabbit. From this they were able to extract an anti-serum which caused the formation of precipitates when placed in the presence of sap from diseased plants. They concluded that such methods could be used by horticulturists for rapid and certain diagnosis. This was in 1950.

In 1953, Marini (19) reported from France that serological methods are used on a very large scale as a basic technique in the study of plant virus diseases. The sera are prepared in liquid form for immediate use and in powder form for storage purposes. Certain commercial firms specialize in the production of sera of potato and dahlia viruses. They are directed by experts, assisted by specialist technicians and work in close collaboration with the Central Station of Plant Pathology, Versailles. Serum is supplied to seed potato growers' cooperatives and to large-scale dahlia growers. The Central Station tests all serum produced in France before it is released for commercial use. As a result of this cooperation, there have been great improvements in seed potato production.

Other European countries have similar programs. In Italy, such work has

When Daniel found himself in the lion's den and looked around, he had at least one consoling thought. "Whoever's got to make the next Dahlia talk to the society, it won't be me."

been initiated by the Plant Pathological Laboratory and the Phytopathological Observatory at Milan. In Scotland, a successful program is in operation, and certain large nurseries now have less than one per cent infection in their dahlia stocks (27).

Another source of disease-free stock recently has been explored. Morel and Martin in 1952 found that if very small apical cuttings were taken from dahlia virus diseased plants and were rooted on Knops' medium no symptoms would show on the resultant plants when grafted on healthy greenhouse stocks. They feel, therefore, that the virus does not penetrate into the apical meristem. Holmes (16) had similar results in 1955 with tomato spotted wilt on dahlias and concluded that the virus remains or lags behind the growing tip.

Control

An effective control program will require several approaches. First, we should have disease-free propagating

(Continued on following page)

Virus Diseases of the Dahlia (Cont'd)

stock, as was discussed above. This is a job for research. However, there are two other helpful steps which a grower can take. These will still be necessary even after disease-free stock is available.

Recent advances in insecticides and spray equipment make an efficient insect control program economically possible (18, 27). Controlling the vectors is of the highest importance in a realistic control program when we consider that masking and other uncertainties make it impossible to rogue out all infected plants. Further, dahlia viruses may overwinter in perennial weeds and other plants as well as dahlias, and thus are available for reinfection the following season.

Roguing as a Control

Roguing is an uncertain aspect of a control program at best and should only be considered along with insect control. This is because many plants may carry latent or symptomless infections and are not removed from the field. In further support of this statement, Briery (5) observed that stunted plants are less likely to serve as a source of inoculum than plants which carry the virus with few or no symptoms, such as plants of the variety Jersey's Beauty, because the latter are more attractive to insects. Because of this factor, we cannot reasonably expect roguing alone to eliminate virus from a propagating stock. Nelson (24) reported that roguing was neither effective nor profitable in collections where large numbers of plants were affected with mosaic. Roguing will only be of service to an effective control program if it is accompanied by spraying. It is probable that even after dahlia viruses are eliminated from the plantings, preventive spraying should be continued.

Discussion

An unawareness of the present critical situation is probably the prime reason why commercial dahlia growers in this country are reluctant to clean up their stocks. Growers in other countries have faced the same problems, and have obtained at least partial answers, although American growers are largely unaware of it. The decline of the potato, onion and other vegetatively propagated plants parallels the situation in dahlias.

Research on potato should serve as a model for dahlia research. At any rate, the situation is not hopeless if positive action is taken.

Growers often find it hard to understand why crops that once were disease-free have become so poor today. With a little thought, however, we see that this is a logical development. Once a dahlia becomes infected, all subsequent plants propagated from it will carry the virus, and each year a little further spread may occur in the field via insects. Thus a stock sooner or later becomes saturated with virus diseases, unless steps are taken to prevent it. For many years the virus diseases were not recognized as such and even today many people do not recognize them. With a world-wide trade in dahlia roots, the diseases have become widely distributed.

Unfamiliarity Breeds Contempt

Commercial and amateur growers often feel that virus symptoms are no more than plant nutrient deficiency symptoms. Back in 1935, Nelson (24) had this to say about the matter: "A number of years ago I saw a small collection of dahlias consisting of a few hundred plants. Scattered throughout this planting of many varieties were plants infected with mosaic. This condition was pointed out to the grower who stated that he thought it was due entirely to soil conditions. A number of years later the increase from these plants, consisting of about six acres, was examined. The plants were growing in a new location, in excellent soil upon which dahlias had not previously been grown. Inspection disclosed that more than 60 per cent of the plants were infected with mosaic and a great many were in the last stages of the disease. Communication with the grower disclosed his views which again were that the condition of the plants was due to unfavorable soil conditions.

EDITOR'S NOTE: This important Research article will be concluded in the August Bulletin. This continuance was necessary because of space limits in this issue plus the need for starting the A.D.S. drive for Research Funds (see next page). It is quite possible that this Dahlia Virus Study will be later issued in pamphlet form for A.D.S. members, if Research funds are available.

WANTED – \$5,000.00

TO FINANCE THE A. D. S. RESEARCH PROGRAM

The day of the "Free Ride" in Dahlia Research is passed. The American Dahlia Society has been very fortunate in the past, in having scientists and students make experiments and do research on dahlia problems. They have been made for the records of their institutions or for thesis for graduation. The projects have ranged from diseases and predators (pathology and entomology), to root storage and other subjects. The studies, most of which have been published for the first time in this Bulletin, have greatly benefited the dahlia world, at little or no cost to Dahlia people.

Take the experiments by Dr. Phillip Brierly in 1933, at the Boyce Thompson Institute at Irvington, N.Y. This institution is endowed, and, except for roots furnished by A. D. S. members, it bore the entire cost of Dr. Brierly's experiments. These studies for the first time established that Dahlia Mosaic was carried from plant to plant by Green (Peach Tree) Aphis. The results, with photographs, appeared in the July 1933 issue, of this Bulletin, through the courtesy of the Boyce Thompson Institute and Dr. Brierly. The subsequent study and article on Dahlia Mosaic in the Feb. 1957 Bulletin by Arthur S. Mason, Chairman of the A. D. S. Research Committee, also cost dahlia people nothing. The article by Mr. Mason in the Nov. 1957 Bulletin on "Prevention of Decay and Shriveling in Dahlia Roots," was also for free, except for Arthur's time spent in getting the facts. Earlier experiments at Cornell University, on the best ways to store roots with a minimum of loss, also cost A. D. S. members nothing except some roots.

A. D. S. Research Chairman Talks Plainly

Arthur Mason has made it quite plain, in recent reports to the A. D. S. that few, if any, Dahlia Research projects may be expected in the future without some financial backing. He frequently has said "we have been very lucky in the past, but we should realize that any worth while dahlia research today will be made in competition with liberal scholarship funds supplied by many commercial firms." His latest statement in this connection follows.

"Floral research by State Experiment Stations follows the trade dollar. The same policy is true to a large extent in private foundations which are interested in floraculture," continued Mr. Mason.

"Pressure groups in states where floraculture is a money crop are constantly making demands on members of the State Legislature and the State Experiment Stations to have funds earmarked for research on certain floral crops that

they are interested in and are raised commercially in that particular state.

"Nurserymen and commercial flower grower associations in many states make available money, plant materials, grounds for experimental purposes, labor, etc. These funds taken altogether run into many thousands of dollars. Oftentimes they are matched or partly matched with public moneys.

(Continued on following page)

Wanted—\$5,000.00 (Cont'd)

"I have seen several budgets of State Experiment Stations and the amount of money set aside for nursery and floral research is very small, in many cases less than 1 percent. In some states no money is set aside for floraculture. If any such work is undertaken by the staff, it is done by the personnel working on the project during slack times in their regular work. Even the insecticides and fertilizers are taken from other projects. Work done on floraculture in certain states is generally all confined to the commercial crops, such as orchids, roses, gladiolas, daffodils, cut annual flowers, etc. Dahlias, with few exceptions, are not considered of sufficient commercial importance to warrant any extensive research. For 1959 I only know of two experiment stations that are going to conduct any research work on dahlias.

I know of no offers having been made within the last three years to finance in whole or in part any dahlia research work at any of our State Experiment Stations.

"And, let's not fool ourselves, Dahlia research is necessary today. Some should be properly undertaken and the sooner it is realized and trained personnel engaged to conduct the experiments, the sooner we will overcome many of the serious difficulties confronting the dahlia grower.

"Many of us have tried, let's say, amateur research," concluded Chairman Mason, "We have accomplished something but we have not solved the overall difficulties confronting the dahlia grower. To head up this work, it must have some centralized authority whose

A dahlia growing husband is a fellow who expects his wife to be perfect and to understand why he isn't.

personnel is enthusiastic for what they are doing. Therefore, without question the only organization interested in dahlias in the United States which is capable of performing this task is the American Dahlia Society. In closing, remember, that this work will have to be largely financed by the Society and performed by personnel who can give full time to the work."

Today's Research Programs are Privately Financed

To further illustrate, here are a few of the Industrial Grants recently listed by a large eastern Agricultural Experiment Station, for the support of their research program: Grange League Federation, \$1,200.00 to study the correlation of the results of soil tests for Mg. P. and K. with plant growth response Calif. Spray Chemical Co., \$300.00 to study fungicides for the control of turf diseases; Velsicol Chem. Corp'n., \$2000.00 to study control of insects on ornamentals; American Cyanamid Co., \$4000.00 to evaluate aureomycin in garbage feeding rations for pigs; The Nutrition Foundation, \$12,000.00 annually for two years for composition studies of eggs and their relationships to lipid metabolism; E. I. DuPont de Nemours & Co., \$2500.00 to study nutritive values of grass grown with high nitrogen fertilization; National Science Foundation, \$2000.00 for basic research on physiologically active and inactive forms of iron in plants, and many more.

Dr. Wildon Points the Way

It seems quite evident from the above, that if the A.D.S. is to have a much needed Dahlia Research Program, our members must find ways and means to finance such projects. As Dr. Carrick E. Wildon, director of the A.D.S. Trial Gardens at Michigan State University, and member of the A.D.S. Research Committee, points out, "commercial dahlia firms should be most vitally interested in an expanded research program because of the spread of dahlia Virus Diseases in the U. S. Such diseases threaten the future material success of all sales of dahlia plants and roots. If there was a Commercial Dahlia Association, as was once the case, it could undertake this job and finance the studies. Without such an organization, individual firms and amateur growers who can, should make contributions to the A.D.S. Research Fund. This Society, as a non-profit, National Group of dahlia growers, under its Research Committee's direction, can undertake and complete such a program if the necessary moneys are made available."

Dr. Wildon continues: "We definitely need some real research to determine methods of distinguishing the fungus diseases in dahlia roots in storage and

in plants that show no symptoms. We also need more study of the nutritions of Agar cultures and of apical meristems, (embryonic tissue and actively dividing cells in the early stages of growth) in order to shorten the process of establishing clean stock of desirable varieties that appear to have been 100% infected. This can be done, but it would be a long tedious process."

"There are other problems involved, and you will note by Mr. Mildner's study in this issue of the Bulletin, that there are four to five Virus Diseases of the Dahlia, possibly more. Mildner is a young man, a student here, whose uncle was a dahlia grower and one whose interests have been allied with dahlia culture since his younger days. He is most interested in the subject and would like to go on with this study of dahlia diseases. But scholarship funds are involved. He is being taken care of in this respect, for this year by a temporary scholarship. But the kind of a study needed and which he would undertake would take several years at the very least. If there is a possibility that the members, both amateur and commercial, of the A.D.S. could contribute some \$2500.00 immediately, towards a scholarship for Mildner for an additional year of study of Dahlia Viruses, at least this project could be continued by him. Beyond that, undoubtedly this project could become so important to the Dahlia World, through the A.D.S., that further research money could be raised for a continuous study of these and other important subjects." We would need at least \$5000.00 for the next two years, and could profitably use \$150,000.00 over the next ten years," concluded Dr. Wildon.

How the Research Can Be Started

The study on other pages of this Bulletin, by student Mildner, is only the beginning of a much needed Research Program to attempt to solve the Dahlia Mosaic Problem. It mainly shows us how to recognize the several viruses that today plague dahlia growers. It does not go far enough to tell how to resolve and eradicate them. Only a carefully planned, long range research program can do these things. Research takes time and patience and should be paid for by those in whose interest it is made.

The A.D.S. Research Committee would be most pleased to receive con-

tributions towards the Mildner Scholarship for study of Dahlia Diseases. Such funds would be administered by the Trustees of the A.D.S. and allotted to the various projects, as authorized by the Executive Committee. Before any money from contributions, would be allotted, a representative plan and program would be arranged by the Research Committee.

We have heard it rumored that two members of the Society have named the A.D.S. in their wills, to receive sub-

When a dahlia grower begins to think of not buying some new varieties and saving the money for a rainy day, it's probably a rainy day.

stantial sums when they pass on. That is a great idea and we hope that it is true, but they would be better able to see the results of such moneys before they go, if they allot same to research NOW. Many times in its history, this society has been near the bottom of the barrel, financially. On at least two occasions it has had to borrow money from some of its more well-to-do members for extraordinary expenses. In both instances, the Society has been able to pay back these loans, with interest, through the unselfish efforts of its loyal workers.

Now the Research Committee of the A.D.S. is asking for a fund for Research for the next two years totaling \$5,000.00. This money to be raised by subscription among A.D.S. members.

Send Your Contribution TODAY

The A.D.S. is a non-profit organization. All of its income is spent to promote the culture and development of the dahlia, and the small balances after expenses are not large enough to finance research. So, any such funds must be raised through subscription or contribution of its members who can well spare the money, both amateur and commercial. If you agree, why not make your contribution now so the program can get started without delay.

Checks or money orders may be sent to Harry A. Dreyer, Treasurer, 431 Lincoln Ave., Ridgewood, N. J. Please mark such contributions, FOR A.D.S. RESEARCH FUND. He will turn such moneys over to the A.D.S. Trustees, for allotment to Research.

Make - Use - Buy - POT ROOTS

By Warren W. Mayrott



Pot Roots, (Right) Smaller, More Vigorous than the two field grown divisions shown at left, because pot roots are riper. The slow, natural, ripening of healthy pot roots, contributes to the formation of the starch-food in the roots, giving them an extra growth-vitality.

We sort of promised, in the February (1959) Bulletin to elaborate on our statement that pot roots were, in many respects, better than field grown roots. We also said or implied that almost any dahlia gardener could make pot roots for himself.

Certainly anyone who does propagating of Dahlia from cuttings, can grow pot roots if they wish to. It can be an additional insurance that one will have stock of favorite varieties to plant next season. It is really quite easy to grow pot roots and many have found it rewarding.

As to why one should grow them, we offer these arguments. We use the word "arguments" because most dahlia growers like to argue about everything connected with dahlias. When growing for exhibition blooms of the large varieties from green plants, the clumps resulting are not, as a rule, the best kind to hold over for stock. Fertilizing late and watering heavily generally produce bushes and blooms up to frost time, with too little time for the roots to properly ripen. Also, field grown plants are all too often exposed to, and occasionally infected

with virus by aphid. Pot roots grown away from the "field" are less exposed to the insects, as smaller plants are more easily covered with spray. Some times, too, a grower wishes to increase plantings of certain varieties, in order to exhibit them in more shows or in more multiple-bloom classes.

How to Plan a Pot Root Harvest

When divisions are started in the bench prior to planting and produce more sprouts than are needed for field plantings or if certain sprouts come up late, perhaps from below the soil level, cut these excess sprouts close to the crown when they develop a pair of good leaves. Root these the same as earlier cuttings which come in April and May. These late plants can then be grown in 3 or 4 inch pots in an out-of-the-way spot, perhaps along a fence. They can be "plunged" or sunk slightly below ground level in a single row, with pots touching, if necessary. Fertilize and water them moderately throughout the season. Spray them against insects, also, when the rest of the garden is sprayed.

In the fall, when danger of frost approaches, take the pots into the green house, or place in cold frame or the cellar, to finish off the ripening process, with dirt still in the pots, and if tops are still green, leave them on also if there is space enough. Cut tops off after they are fully dried out.

Then, early in the spring, take roots out for dividing for field planting or to put in the bench for propagating. They will be found to be vigorous and quick to produce shoots. At Dahliadel, we grow them in the open all summer; then cover them with cold frame sash and supply enough heat to keep them at 40 degrees or above until they quit growing, which is usually about Christmas. This natural, slow ripening contributes to the starch-food formation for following season. That is why the Pot Roots have more vitality for the next season's bush growth.

Commercial Pot Roots

At Dahliadel we use pot roots as well as roots to propagate for early orders for plants, due to their rapid development in the bench. We heartily recommend Pot Roots as planting stock to our customers. They make excellent clumps later if not overfed or overwatered.

Pot Roots are more economical to buy than regular divisions. They are just as satisfactory to grow and much easier to transport; they take much less space to store; they keep well through the winter season, particularly if covered with Vermiculate. Editor Dudley asked us to keep this brief. If you have some questions, or if we have left out details you wish further information about, please write us.—Warren W. Maytrott.

RU 1 of the Missing

On February 12th, 1959, invitations were sent to each Participating and Affiliated Society of the A.D.S. to participate in the A.D.S. SEEDLING SWEEPSTAKES AWARDS and to date, over half of them have been received and accepted.

Applications must be received not later than May 21st. If your society has not sent in their application, have them do so at once. Send to Andrew Mulcahy, Chairman, 20 Marshall Avenue, Floral Park, Long Island, N. Y.

This year, each and every variety scoring an average of 85 or better will be given due credit in the report of the Bulletin in November provided the judges' scores are returned as outlined in the instructions.

Edw. B. Lloyd Honored

From the Montclair Times of April 16th, last, we learn that our A. D. S. Secretary Edw. B. Lloyd, of 10 Crestmont Rd., Montclair, N. J., was recently honored by the Beta Theta Pi Club of New York. He received the fraternity's "Fraternal Fifty Award" for services to the National Fraternity and the New York Club over the first fifty year period of his membership. He was a member of the class of 1911 at Amherst College. He joined the Fraternity as a freshman in 1907.

Ed. has always been reticent to tell his age to his dahlia friends. So this item gives an inkle of the true situation as regards total birthdays of our Secretary. Lets see, you add 20 years to 1907, give or take a few, then add 50 more. Gosh! he doesn't look it. It also mentions the fact that he was formerly a District Engineer for the Mass. Highway Commission; Deputy Com. of Public Works of the City of Beverly, Mass.; also Town Supt. of the Public Works Dept. in Montclair; and is now an officer of the Marsellis-Warner Corp'n., Road Const. Specialists in Montclair. Also he is a life member of the American Dahlia Society and the Midlands Dahlia Society of Great Britain.

Quite a guy, our Secretary. Grows a lot of dahlias, too.

LAST MINUTE DAHLIA BUYS

Do you need any roots or plants to complete your Dahlia Garden? The availability of most varieties still good here. Most orders shipped next day after received. Suggest you check needs NOW!

Catalogue promptly on request.

PENNYPACK

Stanley Johnson, Cheltenham, Pa.

A. D. S. and Dahlia Society of N. J. Will Stage Joint Show, Sept. 23 and 24 at Garden State Plaza

(See illustration, front cover)

The many difficulties attendant on holding Dahlia Shows in a great Metropolitan City like New York, such as parking, transporting vases and other equipment, delivery of boxed blooms, as well as cost of hotel ballroom space and set-up help, have just about ruled out our exhibitions in this city.

For the past two seasons the shows have been staged at the Newark Airport, in conjunction with the Dahlia Society of N. J. and the Irvington Garden Club. But this locality solved only some of the problems and certainly not high cost angle. So this year, like many other societies across the nation, the A. D. S. and the Dahlia Society of N. J. will stage their show together at a Garden Center. It is the Garden State Plaza Shopping Center, located at the junction

Good judgment in a dahlia judge comes from experience and that, of course, comes from earlier poor judgement.

ture of N. J. Routes 4 and 17, in Paramus, N. J.

The show itself will be staged in the Plaza's Civic Auditorium (Building "F" on Dogwood Lane, lower level con-

course). The auditorium is 88 feet by 45 feet, with a total of 4,046 square feet of available exhibition space and is air con-

The pretty elevator operator in a hotel where a dahlia show was being held, observed: "It isn't the ups and downs that bother me, it's the jerks."

ditioned. The ceiling is 10 feet high. Set-up space is provided with water. Tables will be furnished by the Plaza management, supplemented, if necessary by other tables owned by societies nearby. There is a vestibule 15 by 30 feet also, where arrangement classes may be staged. Deliveries of exhibits are made via an underground truck tunnel. Bus service on five routes from the Bus Terminal at 41st St. in N. Y. City will make visits to the Center very easy. Many N. J. Bus lines pass this Center and many routes for N. J. cars lead to it. Cars from N. Y. and Long Island will go via the George Washington Bridge and Route 4.

Anthony (Tony) Pietruszkiewicz, President of the Dahlia Society of N. J., has been named Show Manager, with an experienced committee to help him stage it. There is lots of parking space, as you will note from the illustration (front cover) for some 6,000 cars, without fees, so it is expected that the attendance to this joint dahlia show will be much larger than in recent years.

For guests who wish to stay through the two day show, there are several motels nearby. One which takes our eye is the Arcola Motor Lodge, Paramus, N. J. with 80 rooms with bath. It is on Route 4, eight miles from the G. W. Bridge. Rates are \$6 single, \$7 per couple in cabins. Hotel, \$7 and \$8, with DeLux at \$8 and \$10. Apartments, \$12 up. Write for reservations.

Both societies hope that all classes will be filled and that all dahlia growers in this eastern area will make this show a must on their dahlia schedule.

LOTS OF PLANTS!

Let us help you fill those vacant spots in the garden with some special collections. Prices Reasonable.

Write or Call us — OR 6-5651

Wm. L. Tilton

**FOREST
DAHLIA GARDENS**

24 FOREST AVENUE
GLEN COVE, L. I., N. Y.

"WEST COAST NEWS"

By Dr. J. R. Brandon, Jr., 3437 Gravenstein Hwy., So., Sebastopol, Cal.



Dr. Julian R. Brandon
A.D.S. Pacific Coast Editor

ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE PACIFIC SOUTHWEST DAHLIA

The 10th annual conference of the Pacific Southwest Dahlia Association was held in El Cortez Hotel, in San Diego, Calif., February 21st and 22nd. Mrs. Joe A. Bishop, president of the host San Diego County Dahlia Society, presided and 93 persons registered. They represented all of the eight conference societies.

The business session covered all subjects on the agenda, with no new business introduced. It was voted to accept the San Leandro Dahlia Society invitation for the 1960 show, with the conference meeting to be held in San Francisco, with the Dahlia Society of California acting as co-host. The conference trophy for best flower in show will be awarded at this San Leandro Conference Show.

Summary of Agenda Discussion and Action

STANDARDIZING SHOW SCHEDULES: Because of inability at most shows to fill all color classes in various types, confusion to exhibitors and difference in present schedules, it would not be feasible to have standardized schedules. However, in making changes, A.D.S. nomenclature should

be used and A.D.S. pattern should be followed for uniformity when possible.

Committee, headed by Chairman Heywood Allen, of Orange Co. Society, recommended all societies work toward one similar, simple system for entering exhibits, and favored plan of duplicate cards, one to place on exhibit and one for the show records.

JUDGING SCHOOLS AND CREDENTIALS: Discussion showed general favor for adopting plan similar to that used in Pacific Northwest Conference. Mrs. Frances McDuffeen, of Portland, explained the Northwest plan and answered questions. Committee, headed by F. C. McKelvey, of Inglewood Society, reported that consensus showed need and desire for judging school. Use of the A.D.S., Dr. Ward H. Cook's Manual and the A.D.S. scorecard as basic material for the school was favored. Recommended that the matter be

(Continued on following page)

Lose Some Clumps?

Many have lost some pet varieties from one cause or another. If you have, too, why not order our New 1959 Certificatees?

CECIL M. (A) S.C. White and Lav.
Plant — \$5.00 net

BERKY (A) I.C. Lemon Yel. Pink
Plant — \$5.00 net

ROSEMARY J. (B) I.D. Purple-Lav.
Plant — \$5.00 net

SPECIAL OFFER — One Plant of Each of the Above Beauties,
Only \$14.00 — Postpaid.

Sorry, Seed all Sold.

RUSCHMOHR
Dahlia Gardens

38 Vincent Street
Rockville Centre, N. Y.

West Coast Dahlia News (Cont'd)

referred to individual societies for action, with extension of scope to be taken up later. Previous discussion had favored rule that blooms were to be judged as grown rather than as listed in classification lists. Belief was expressed that those who had been judging for many years should not be required to attend school.

CONFERENCE BULLETIN: Mrs. McDuffee, editor of Pacific Dahlia of the Northwest Conference, described their publication and answered questions as to cost. Cost and mechanics of establishing a conference Bulletin were admitted to be large problems. Possibility of sharing The Pacific Dahlia at some date in future was cited. The advantage was stressed of exchanging general information as to society officers, show dates and schedules, local bulletins, etc.

DEFINITION OF AN AMATEUR: Discussion proved to be most extensive of any subjects at business session. Main thoughts were that societies should handle problems themselves with due regard to the size of their societies and shows, number of exhibitors, etc. . . . that everything possible be done to give all possible encouragement to beginners.

Committee headed by R. M. Middleton, of San Diego, reported unanimous agreement that there is need for a larger spread at the shows for beginning growers and novices. Recommended definition of novice as one who has never won a blue ribbon for dahlias prior to current year; an amateur, one who has no more than 100 plants of all varieties, and who has never won more than one sweepstakes; advanced amateur, one with more than 100 plants of all kinds and/or has won as many as two amateur sweepstakes; open to all, just what it says.

NEW A and B-SIZE STANDARDS: Discussion showed almost as many different opinions as there were persons entering the discussion. Entire conference was divided into committees of six to continue discussion and report.

Twelve committees reported; some favoring various changes, including extension of BB size to 7", B size from 7 to 9". A size from 9" up, and AA size

over 11". Rough tabulation indicated a majority might favor keeping BB as is, changing B to 6 to 9", and A size 9" up. Summarizing discussion and lack of agreement, the Chairman recommended each society take its own action and notify A.D.S.

DAHLIA, THE NATIONAL FLOWER: On motion of R. Paul Comstock, of San Diego, conference voted to urge campaign for adoption of dahlia, to urge A.D.S. to take up the subject and pursue it, for each conference society and each member to write to all local congressmen to line up for the dahlia, and to make California-wide congressional delegation effort.

OTHER BUSINESS: Motion by R. E. Harter, President of the East Bay Dahlia Society, Oakland, to put on next conference agenda the subject of combining Northwest and Southwest conferences, with possible continuance of separate sectional meetings.

There was considerable discussion on insect and cultural problems, How To Attract New Members and Increase Interest, etc. There was then a valuable and informative discussion and comparison of 1958 winners with those from 1948 through 1957. Mr. Comstock recalled old favorites back to Jersey's Beacon, Dainty and Beauty, and told of introduction of Ballay's Ambassador and Silver Glamour at \$50.00 each.

R. E. (Pete) Harter traced the swing of preference in the west to cactus types, possibly due to Holland and South African influence, except the big ones from the United States and Australia that are predominantly decoratives. Garnett Huey said his "Best B's" are First Lady, Windlassie, Iva Jean, and Juanita, and best A's would include Toby's Yellow Monarch, Robens Lavender Beauty, Pat, Queen City, and Boram's Wonder. He cited Mme. Frans Wauters as all time best miniature.

Nat Lundgren extolled work of the Trial Grounds and trial ground scoring as a better gauge of the true worth of a dahlia variety than Achievement Medals. Dr. G. Emmett Raitt cited women's preference for pastels and men's for firm colors, especially red. Some of his favorites: Freda Canning, Dixie's Winedot, Duet and Dinah Shore, with praise for Satan, Miss Wahrunga, Juanita, Nita, Pink Spiral and City of San Gabriel.

Why Not Join A.D.S. Now?

With regularity we receive letters asking for the classification and description of dahlias. We have just received our copy of the classification of dahlias booklet which all members of the A.D.S. receive without cost each year. In its more attractive and durable new cover, it brings to our mind how much is missed (in addition to the BULLETIN) by those not enjoying A.D.S. membership.

We have received quite a number of letters expressing rather strong opinions on the "wisdom" or "folly" of placing a \$5.00 tag on a top new introduction. One school of thought points to the greatly increased sales at this low price while the other cites the sub-basement prices on roots and plants the second year. As a Viceroy smoker, we believe each man should think for himself.

In California, which leads the nation in agriculture, we come in contact with very large growers of cotton, nuts, prunes, citrus fruits, berries, etc. They are almost unanimous in their faith in Vapam and similar nematocides. One large grower tells us that \$6000 spent for nematocides brings him back his initial \$6000 investment, plus an equal or larger sum in greater crop yield. Vapam, for instance, does not merely kill nematodes. It destroys all soil parasites and all seed it contacts, including WEED seeds. Yet it is safe for any planting not too many days after its application.

Clement Ballay Retires

Clement W. (Charley) Ballay, who started growing dahlias commercially thirty odd years ago, and who became nationally known for his "GIANT BALLAY DAHLIAS" is retiring. His rather extensive property frontage on El Camino Real, in Palo Alto, Calif. has just become too valuable and a substantial offer proved too tempting.

He wrote us that his time of life he does not wish to face the task of starting again in a new location. He will continue to live in his home on the property for some little time to come until he decides upon some interest to occupy his time.

Pacific Northwest Dahlia Conference Show

Received nice letter from William P. Owens, a member of the Seattle Dahlia Society and President of the Pacific Northwest Dahlia Conference, inviting us to visit the Conference Show, hosted by the Seattle Dahlia Society with a combined show, on August 29th and 30th.

There are now seven societies that comprise the P.N.D.C., Whakiakum County Dahlia Society (newly organized this year), being the youngest and the Snohomish County Dahlia Society, celebrating its Golden Anniversary this year, being the oldest. We might mention that we believe that this is the oldest dahlia society in the United States.

The foregoing dahlia news has been made possible by those generous and willing dahlia growers who took the time to write us and SHARE their activities with our readers. They like to read about you, too. Will you SHARE your activities with them by writing us?

KINDLEIN'S DAHLIA & FLOWER FARM 1390 Skokie Highway Lake Forest, Illinois

Dear Dahlia Friends:

Time to look forward to another Dahlia Season. We have a fine selection of A's and B's, plus the best in miniatures. Old and New varieties. Watch the shows for our introductions. Catalogue FREE on request. But Hurry.

MILLER DAHLIA FARM

We will be moving to new location in June. New address will be Box 27, Kingston, Washington. Try one of our collections for last minute fill-ins.

- A. 10 large varieties A & B size—
mixed FD, ID, SC, STC and IC. . . \$5.00
- B. 10 Miniatures. \$4.00
- C. 10 Pompons. \$2.50
- D. Mixture—5 large (A & B)—5 minia-
tures—5 pompons—2 collarettes. . \$5.00

MILLER DAHLIA FARM

318 South 128th Street Seattle 88, Wash.

Introducing the New Officers of the A.D.S.

Meet President Bertram (Bert) E. Pitt



President "Bert" Pitt

Growing dahlias is nothing new in the Pitt garden; they have always been there. Bert took an early interest in the dahlia planting (when he was about 14) and has been at it ever since then. At about that time he went to work for one of the large life insurance companies with headquarters in New York, and by "digging time" this Fall, will have completed 40 years of service with them. He started buying new dahlias a few years after starting in business, gradually discarding the show and fancy varieties which his grandmother had grown. Many other hobbies and interests have come since, flourished for a while, and then passed on, but always the dahlias were there.

One such interest, which stayed on, is the taking of long motor trips, which are now made to serve the dahlia hobby. Of late years, Bert has been using his vacations to drive to the West Coast to visit some of the shows, and to meet the dahlia people there. Bert is a bachelor, and his father is a widower. They live together, and share the interest in dahlias. Both love to get in the car and dash across the country to visit a show in California, Washington, or Oregon and then dash home again, usually to complete the transcontinental trip in two weeks. It would be very nice, they agree, to stay longer and visit more

shows, and meet more dahlia people, but two weeks is all that can be spared from the garden, if there are to be any blooms fit for showing at the local shows. From this brief biographical sketch, one might get the idea that the President of the A.D.S. is really a dedicated dahlia enthusiast. If so, one would surely be right.

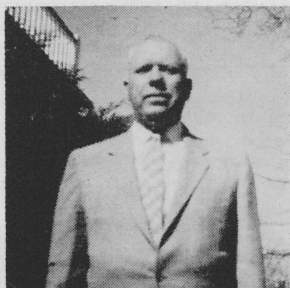


Meet Harry A. Dreyer,
A.D.S. Treasurer

It is a new experience for Harry Dreyer to receive mail at his home every day from all over the U.S., many of them with checks for dues from members of the Society. Says Harry, "It is indeed a far cry from our previous work with the local Dahlia Societys, and the social life that has grown to be more or less the custom for quite a few years, here in our Ridgewood, N. J. home, where we take great pride, my wife and I, in our modern home and our large yard and garden."

"As for dahlias, it was only a few short years ago that we were growing only a few rather insignificant dahlias along with corn, pumpkins and other vegetables all mixed together. We had never heard of disbudding or disbranching, so you can imagine the general results which we had at the start."

"Our family," continued Mr. Dreyer, "consists of a son, James, and a daughter."



Harry A. Dreyer, Treasurer

ter, Joan. Joan has absolutely no interest in gardening, but James, now in college, works for a local florist during vacations, and has helped us a great deal to care for a very large lawn, a planting of shrubs, fruit trees and a garden of some 600 dahlias, as well as a constant array of blooms from a great variety of perennials and annuals."

Mr. Dreyer is a successful jeweler, with a store in downtown New York. This requires six full days of his time per week, practically the entire year. Mrs. Dreyer often goes in to help him at the store, since the death of his partner, a few years ago. As for their dahlia life, Mr. and Mrs. Dreyer are members of the Bergen County, American Dahlia Society, National Capital, Dahlia Soc. of N. J., Central States, and the Dahlia Soc. of South Africa. Besides being Treasurer of the A. D. S., Harry is President of the Bergen Co. D. Society. The Dreyers have displayed dahlias in many shows each season, from Elmira to Washington, D.C., with outstanding success. Harry says of this: "Our results have been more than gratifying, mostly because Mrs. Dreyer is most exacting about the cutting and proper displaying, no matter where we go. Being Treasurer of the A.D.S. is new to me, but I will try my best to carry on the excellent work of my predecessors. The work as President of our local society is also new, but not as demanding of hours as the Treasurer job with the Mother Society, but never worry, the Dreyers are enjoying the work. And remember it's a team, "The Dreyers."

Meet Caroline P. Meyer, Ass't Sec'y, A.D.S.

(Participating and Affiliated Societies)

"Everything about my dahlia experience must include my husband, Diedrich or Dick as I call him, as we always work as a team. In the garden, as well as in our home and Garden Club activities. We will be celebrating our 35th Wedding Anniversary this year and in all that time we have enjoyed the same hobbies and interests. We have one daughter who is married and has given us four lovely granddaughters ranging in age from two to nine years of age.

"We started growing dahlias in 1931 with a few surplus roots given to us by

a relative. They included Jane Cowl, Jersey's Beauty, Jersey's Beacon, Avalon and Mrs. Ida Be Ver Warner, etc. That was the beginning. Not long after we read of the American Dahlia Society Show to be held in the Hotel Pennsylvania. We attended that show and nearly everyone thereafter. Like all beginners we made a long list of the varieties we liked, planning to order them in the spring. Sent for the various catalogues in the spring and you can be sure that many of the names were deleted from the list due to our limited budget. Never-



Caroline P. Meyer

theless we ordered a few of the new ones each year and grew them along with some of the older varieties and enjoyed them along with our neighbors. The dahlia fever had begun to get us, it never has subsided.

"Both of us were born and raised in Jersey City. We helped to organize The Garden Club of Jersey City. Although all flowers were shown in their shows, Dahlias were the predominate flower. We were also members of the Northern New Jersey Horticultural Society, where Dahlias were a specialty. We have been members of the New Jersey Dahlia Society for many years and also members of the A. D. S.

In 1943 we moved to Bergen County where our Dahlia Patch could be enlarged. Last year we grew about 400 hills. We organized the Bergen County Dahlia Society in our home twelve years ago. We have watched it grow from 11 members to a very active and well known society. I recently served two years as the first woman president of that Society. At present, I am president of The Garden Club of Bergenfield, having been elected to office for a second

(Continued at bottom, next page)

Here Are the New Vice-Presidents of A. D. S.

With List of Participating and Affiliated Societies

By Caroline P. Meyer, Ass't Sec'y

The following presidents of the Dahlia Societies listed, all Participating and Affiliated Societies of the American Dahlia Society are all Vice-Presidents of the A. D. S. for 1959. We are glad to welcome them to the family of A. D. S. Officials.

The A. D. S. is glad to have these men and women take part in the affairs of the society, by attending any of the regular meetings of its Executive Board, which meets monthly at the Park Sheraton Hotel, 56th St. at 7th Ave., New York City. The meetings for the balance of the year will be April 24-June 19-July 17, Aug. 21-Oct. 16-Nov. 20 and Dec. 18. There will be no meeting in May or September as they are planting and show times. If any of the Vice-Presidents listed are in New York at 7:30 P.M. on the above mentioned dates they are cordially invited to attend.

Any Society Can Be a Branch

If any Dahlia Society will secure 20 or more of their members who will join the A. D. S. as Participating Members and pay \$2.50 per year, then that society may become an A.D.S. Participating Society. In that event, the Society will receive the A.D.S. Medal for awarding at its show and the privilege of participating in the nationwide Seedling Sweepstakes Awards. Each Participat-

ing member will receive this Bulletin and the Annual Joint Classification List. He or she may attend any A.D.S. Official meeting and may vote for its officers each year.

Affiliated Societies

Any Dahlia Society may become an Affiliated A. D. S. by paying an annual fee of \$20.00. For this it will receive the A.D.S. Bronze Medal for awarding at its show, six copies of each issue of this Bulletin sent to its Secretary for rotating among its members, and the right to participate in the annual A.D. S. Seedling Sweepstakes at its show.

The American Dahlia Society furnishes the above services and privileges at less than actual cost in order to help promote interest in the growing of dahlias and to obtain the co-operation of other dahlia societies in its affairs and program. The Active (\$4.00 per year) and Sustaining Memberships (\$5.00 and \$10.00) make up the difference in cost.

If your Society should be listed with the A. D. S. Participating or Affiliated societies but is not, please send name and address of its president to Mrs. Caroline P. Meyer, Assistant Secretary, 165 Harcourt Ave., Bergenfield, N. J. and it will appear in the August issue of the "Bulletin."

New A. D. S. Vice-Presidents of Affiliated Societies

Greater Kansas City Dahlia & Chrysanthemum Society—Frank Tamborella—3011 E. 9th St., Kansas City, Mo.
Southtown Dahlia Society—G. Reed Thomson—3520 Condit St., Highland, Ind.
Southeastern Michigan Dahlia Society—R. F. (Pat) Row.
San Diego Dahlia Society—Mrs. Joseph A. Bishop—2531 33rd St., San Diego, Calif.
Ohio Valley Dahlia Association—Harold Vicroy—718 Market St., New Richmond, Ohio.
Long Island Dahlia Society—Joseph Mugno—56 Lincoln Blvd., Hempstead, N. Y.

Dahlia Society of New Jersey—Anthony Pietrozkiwicz—340 Route 23, Pompton Plains, N. J.
Irvington Garden Club—Paul Cermak—499 Styvesant Ave., Irvington, N. J.
Bergen County Dahlia Society—Harry Dreyer—431 Lincoln Ave., Ridgewood, N. J.
Badger State Dahlia Society—Dr. Gordon Garrett—5310 Loruth Terrace, Madison, Wis.
Kitsap County Dahlia Society—Leo G. Miller—R.D. 5, Box 85, Bremerton, Washington.
Snohomish County Dahlia Society—Tony De Rooy, Monroe, Washington.
East Liverpool Dahlia Society—John Eccleston—Chestnut Extension, E. Liverpool, Ohio.
Portland Dahlia Society—J. R. McEvoy—14 S.E. 11th Ave., Portland 16, Oregon.
Indianapolis Dahlia Society—
Dahlia Society & Plant Specialist of Greater Cleveland—
Scioto Valley Dahlia Society—
Men's Garden Club of Ashville—
North Jersey Dahlia Society—Lewis Culp—163 Grant St., Dover, N. J.
Mid American Dahlia Society—P. J. McDonald—6222 South Benton, Kansas City, Mo.

(Continued from preceding page)

term. Our interest in dahlias has made us many friends, throughout the years, and we hope that it will continue to do so.

"In the business world I am employed in the Accounting Dept.—Tax Division of The International Paper Company, New York City."—Caroline P. Meyer.

Washington State Dahlia Society—
Seattle Dahlia Society—George E. McCrea—6845
35th Ave., N.E., Seattle, Wash.
Burholme Horticultural Society

Tulsa Dahlia Society—Guy L. Reid—1309 S.
Allegheny, Tulsa.
Washington State Dahlia Society—Mrs. Charles
Ayler, 1121 So. 59th St., Tacoma.

New A. D. S. Vice-Presidents of Participating Societies

Dahlia Society of Alabama—George Alderson—
1218 Irving Rd., Holmwood, Birmingham, Ala.
Dahlia Society of Baltimore—Paul Hunter—6307
Banbury Rd., Baltimore 12, Md.
Central States Dahlia Society—N. T. Brunswick
—4322 Northcote, East Chicago, Ind.
Central Valley Dahlia Society—Carey Hargreaves
—209 U Street, Bakersfield, Calif.
East Bay Dahlia Society—Carl V. Lundvall—
655 Broadmoor Blvd., San Leandro, Calif.
Fresno Dahlia Society—Arthur Schmall—5346
E. White, Fresno, Calif.
Dahlia Society of Georgia—David Sullivan—2276
Camellia Drive, Decatur, Ga.
Greater Philadelphia Dahlia Society—Stanley
Johnson—Cheltenham, Pa.
Inglewood Dahlia Society—Herbert Priess—926
No. Eucalyptus Ave., Inglewood, Calif.
Dahlia Society of Ithaca—Ithaca, N. Y.
Dahlia Society of Kentucky—J. B. Floyd—25 43
Dell Rd., Louisville 5, Kentucky.
Michigan Dahlia Association—Ralph I. Bowman
—321 East Coler Ave., Jackson, Mich.
Dahlia Society of Minnesota—Dr. A. E. James-
ton—24 Penn Ave., So. Minneapolis 9, Minn.

National Capital Dahlia Society—John B. Gilmer
—1705 Bevery St., Falls Church, Va.
Dahlia Society of Ohio—Elroy M. Christman—
—23910 Gessner Rd., No. Olmstead, Ohio.
Orange County Dahlia Society—Dr. G. Emmett
Raitt—1971 S.E. Mesa Dr., Santa Ana, Calif.
Dahlia Society of Rochester—Barton Brooks—
40 Hickory St., Rochester, N. Y.
San Leandro Dahlia Society—Mrs. Eleanor Boles-
worth—1044 Marquette Way, San Leandro,
Calif.
Southern Tier Dahlia Society—Richard Rawley
—530 Partridge St., Elmira, N. Y.
Suburban Dahlia Society—Henry Franz—Cherry
Hill Rd., Route 2, Reistertown, Md.
Dahlia Society of Tennessee—John R. Cooley,
Route 4, Ringgold, Ga.
Dahlia Society of Virginia—Alton W. Smith—
4309 Gains Rd., Richmond 22, Va.
Dahlia Society of Wisconsin—Edward Wisniew-
ski—123 West Waterford Ave., Milwaukee.
Yazoo Dahlia Society—Preston E. Maxwell—315
12th St., Yazoo City, Mississippi.

Send Your Seedlings to These

OFFICIAL TRIAL GARDENS

EASTERN

Mr. C. Rissmeyer
L. I. Agricultural & Tech. Inst.
Farmingdale, L. I., N. Y.

PACIFIC COAST

Mr. R. E. Harter
2769 Danville Highway
Alamo, Calif.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST

Mr. C. A. Taylor
1420 S. Stevens St.
Tacoma 5, Wash.

MID-WEST

Dr. C. E. Wildon
823 Huntington Road
East Lansing, Mich.

SOUTHERN

Dr. A. Stephens, Jr.
1260 Brookforest Dr., N.E.
Atlanta, Ga.

OHIO VALLEY

Entry blanks and fees to:
Miss Alice Mattick
4223 Dane St.
Cincinnati 23, Ohio, and —

Roots or plants by Railway
Express ONLY to:

Mr. Robert Seibel
Principio & Heekins Ave.
Cincinnati 26, Ohio

UNOFFICIAL TRIAL GARDENS

NORTH CENTRAL

Mr. C. H. Rose
5239 12th Ave., S.
Minneapolis 17, Minn.
No entry fee at this garden until
they attain official status.

BADGER STATE

For instructions write to:
George R. Carrie
4130 Manitou Way
Madison 5, Wisconsin
No entry fee this year.

Henry A. Olsen, Chairman
48 Clement St., Elmont, N. Y.

BRITAIN AND THE DAHLIA—1959

By Philip Damp

The High Priests and Disciples of the unwitting Doctor Dahl, have good reason to be pleased with themselves in 1959, for exactly 170 years after the first seeds of our beloved flower were brought from the New World to the Old, and placed in the care of Abbé Cavanilles at the Botanical Gardens in Madrid, the prospects and enthusiasm of Dahliaism have never been higher.

The National Dahlia Society, supported by a record 850 affiliated societies and over 5000 fanatical devotees, has leapt from strength to strength in the post war years. At all the major shows throughout the country, the dahlia has triumphed over every other flower, bringing brilliance of color, variance of form and adaptability of usage, that in full permutation have made it the Heir Apparent to the cherished throne of popularity, held for so long by her aging Majesty—the Autumn Queen!

Many reasons are offered to account for this wave of enthusiasm. Maybe it is the ease of growth, the liking for any soil and situation or the abundance of bloom. Whatever the answer, one thing is certain, our flower has the pulsating throb of expectancy, the thrill of new excitements that annually stem from the four brothers . . . Coccinea, Mercii, Juarezii and Variabilis! And no other flower offers that.

The number one show on a British dahlia growers list, is the annual gathering of the champions and champions expectant at the Royal Horticultural Hall in Westminster, London. Here in the shadow of the Houses of Parliament

More Dahlia Growers might live to a ripe old age, if they weren't so busy providing for it.

are to be seen the best dahlias in the world. The accent, however, is on direct competition, as opposed to competition between raisers of unclassified varieties as seems to be the case in your bigger shows in America. The champions class for "A" sized blooms, calls for 12 all different blooms in the

decorative section, and a similar number in the "A" size cactus. The decorative class was won by Mr. W. Ensum of Worcester Park, London, who placed the following twelve blooms to win the award for the fourth year running: Bessie Hardress, Margaret Duross, Ronlea Martin, The Master, Kidd's Climax, Kemp's Purple Triumph, Cherokee Beauty, Lena Hall, Tidal Wave, Sunburst, White Nobby's Light and Liberator (Syn: Pop Harris). The "A" cactus went to Mr. Terry Lebar of Erith in the county of Kent with: Belle of The Ball, Good Catch, Pam Silk, Janet Beckett, Salmon Glory, Graf Folke Bernadotte, Betty Hone, Herbert Apps, Arab Queen, Silver Wedding, Ivory Giant and Conquest. Both

The difficult age comes to many dahlia growers when they're too tired to work and too interested to quit.

these exhibitors are modest, unassuming gentlemen in the true tradition of dahlia showmen. Always ready to pass on their knowledge to others, they could be seen at any time during the two days of the show, surrounded by eager dahlia men anxious to obtain their formula and emulate their success!

So as you can see, the scene has changed here in Britain. So much in fact, that if dear old Andreas and his friend the Abbé were alive today they might probably consider that it would have been far better if they had lost the original seeds in the first place! . . . which would, of course, have made our lives that much less interesting.

To make our lives the **more** interesting, we of the Midlands newly organized Dahlia Society would sincerely love to correspond with American dahlia lovers, and through the writer, Philip Damp, Secretary at 26 Burns Road, Lillington, Leamington Spa, England, arrangements may be made with real appreciation.—The Midlands Dahlia Society. Philip Damp, Secretary.

Editor's Note: Above article received through the courtesy of Edward B. Lloyd, Montclair, N. J.—"Life" Vice President, Midlands Dahlia Society.

DAHLIA PEOPLE

Here, There and Everywhere



Our old friend E. E. Montgomery of Atlanta, or rather, Decatur, Ga., who has been in charge of the A.D.S. Southern Official Trial Garden is reported ill by Dr. A. Stephens, Jr., of 1260 Brookforest Drive, N. E. Atlanta. Dr. Stephens is asking all who contemplate sending Seedling Dahlias for Trial there to address them to him, instead of to "Monty." Hope to hear soon of his complete recovery.

Henry Olsen, former A.D.S. Treasurer has been very ill and recently underwent an operation on his leg. Happy to report that he is making out fine, but was away from his job with Con-Edison for several weeks.

From V. P. Roy Webb, Scranton: "You have done it again—put out another splendid issue of the Bulletin. Congratulations. Just ordered G. F. Drayson's book" "Dahlias" from your review in the Nov. issue. You know, I have an idea that you are "Sportshelf," from which we order it in New Rochelle, Box 634." No Roy. I've been waiting for someone to suspect that we have started a book house. We have no connection with it. Mr. Drayson and Yours Truly were both surprised to learn about it.

From C. W. Ballay, Palo Alto, Calif.: "I have given you my last advertisement about dahlia roots and introductions. I

had an extra good opportunity to sell my place, which had become too valuable and too highly taxed to use for agricultural purposes. I will retire at the end of this season. I did not plant as many last year as usual, so there will be very little surplus stock. I have been at the dahlia growing business for 40 years and it is getting to be too much work and responsibility at my age.

"These four decades have been happy and rewarding years, and it is with much sincere regret that I give it up. Besides, I have many old and loyal customers and I do not like to quit and let them down. I will always have an interest in dahlias and dahlia news, therefore I will keep up my membership in the Dahlia Soc. of Calif., the A. D. S. and other societies. I hope to hear from you occasionally and would like to thank you for your many favors through the years. They have been much appreciated. All good wishes to you in the future. Sincerely, C. R. Ballay.

Louise E. Kleinjohn, known to so many dahlia people, is one of about 160 Kentucky women to be listed in "Whose Who of American Women," a newly published biographical dictionary. She was also among 68 Louisville doctors, lawyers, educators, artists, writers and civic leaders to have this distinction. Wonder if she will speak to any of us common folk now.

Sad words from a Bulletin Advertiser: "My orders seem to have completely stopped since about March 25th. I feel pretty sick about it, as we will not realize a cent of profit from the season unless orders start coming again right soon. My own group in the Society, which I helped to organize, have, almost to a soul, ordered roots from Holland. That is a tough situation for us to face who pay taxes here locally, and Federally. Dated 4/9/1959. Signature deleted. No adv. copy inclosed.

Dahlia People (Cont'd)

H. E. (Pete) Harter, V. P. and Director of the A.D.S. Official Trial Garden at Lakeside Park, Oakland, Calif., writes: The Oakland Park Dept., here are celebrating their Golden Anniversary this year. So it is fitting that they use this Theme in the Dedication Ceremonies for the New Garden Center on Aug. 22 and 23, 1959. We will also have "Dahlia Days on these two dates and most of the members of the New East Bay Dahlia Society will be on hand to greet visitors and show them around the Dahlia plantings. Over 2000 dahlias in bloom make quite a sight, too. Besides our dahlia group, several others will be having flower exhibitions in and around the Garden Center Bldg. May we suggest that Dahlia People who expect to visit the Pacific Coast this year, time their visit for these two days in Aug. if possible. We would like to see you and believe you will meet a lot of nice, friendly Pacific Coast dahlia growers.

Congratulations on the Feb. Bulletin. It was extra good, in fact, we here think the best yet. Have heard many nice things said about it.—Maude S. Goodwin, Birmingham.

From Arthur Mason, Publisher of the N.C.D.S. Dahliagram: "As a result of the two 1/8th page "advs" in the Feb. and Aug. 1958 Bulletins we got splendid results. In them, the N.C.D.S. offered to send free samples of the Dahliagram to any interested dahlia growers. We received a total of 109 requests for copies. We even received a request from a Dahlia Society to send them 50 copies to distribute among their members. Forty-three new members in the N. C. D.S. can be traced to these two small advertisements in the A.D.S. Bulletin. Incidentally 34 of these new ones have renewed for 1959. **Certainly the Bulletin has a drawing power that no advertiser should overlook.** Thank you Arthur for "them" kind words. — Editor

"Looking over the Feb. issue of the Bulletin, I am reminded again that it must take a great deal of time and effort on your part to get up an issue like that. Getting all the material in from all over the country and then preparing it for the printer, always working

against a time limit, that's a big job. I believe everyone interested in dahlias, and the commercial growers especially, owe you a debt of gratitude, for a "labor of love" well done. Kindly accept my thanks, for one.—Albert Parrella.

Back copies of the Bulletin are available at only 60 cents each. Write Editor Dudley, list those copies of which you are short, in 1954-55-56-57-58, enclose check or money order and back they will come, promptly.

All Can Participate

One A.D.S. Vice-Pres. poses a dandy question. You stress that all members of the societies connected with the A.D.S. are PARTICIPATING members. I'm wondering if there is a sense of participating with the A.D.S. among the rank and file. In our own society, if it exists, it is very hard to detect. Could you think up something of a more tangible nature to help cultivate this feeling of actually Participating in something really BIG that the A.D.S. Proposes? **We certainly can.** See the story in this issue about the need of Contributions to the A.D.S. Research Fund. Every single member of every single Participating Society can participate in this important job. Give a dollar if you can't give more. Give a Thousand if you can spare it.

Among the handicaps to growing better dahlias and exhibiting them; week end visitors; relatives dropping in just before dinner; fishing trips and just good intentions.

Jarvis R. Pittman, a well known dahlia originator, and resident of Barnegat, N. J. passed away April 9th, last after a long illness. He was 82 years old. He was a member of the A.D.S. for many years. Some of the well known varieties which Mr. Pittman originated were OLD GLORY, WHIRLAWAY, HORIZON, MME. CHIANG KAI SHEK, FLYING Fortress, VERN and the famous ARTHUR GODFREY, one of the top winners of the past decade. All of these Pittman dahlias were introduced by Dahliadel.

Oliver Shurtleff, who used to travel two nights and a day by bus to come from Fairmont W. Va. to the New York A.D.S. shows and annual meetings for many years, and who used to write a Column for this Bulletin on "Outstanding Dahlia Personalities" is dead, according to reports reaching us. No details were given, except that he died late in 1958. Oliver was a difficult man to understand. He taught school in Fairmont, W. Va. for many years. At one time he directed, planted and scored dahlias in an A.D.S. Trial Garden there. He was an inspirational speaker, and addressed the A.D.S. Annual meeting or gave the invocation at it, on several occasions. Rest in peace, Oliver.

"We received many requests for our catalogue from our advertisement in the Feb. Bulletin, in fact we are about out of them. Some have paid off with orders. Haven't had time to check them all out, but the Bulletin gets returns, that we know. Doc Brandon's Columns are going to be a fine addition to your magazine. Mrs. Lynn Murray, for Miller Dahlia Farms, New address, 318 So. 128th St., Seattle.

Dahlia Names Registered

Dr. Charles H. Connors, Chairman of the A.D.S. Nomenclature Committee, reports the following names, having been checked with the Master List, are herewith registered, with Fees of \$1.00 each for registration paid.

REGISTRATIONS

By Nat C. Lundgren, 125 Wood St., Santa Cruz, Cal., IONA PYLE, a B size, Informal Decorative, variegated pink with wine stripes. Fee paid.

By the North Jersey Dahlia Society, the following dahlias: Lou Costello, originated by Charles Albanese, Tuxedo Park, N. Y., B dahlia, semi-cactus, bi-color, flame red and white. Permission to use the name has been granted.

City of Paterson, originated by Charles Albanese, Tuxedo Park, N. Y., B dahlia, incurved cactus, autumn color.

If you wish to be certain that the name you choose for your new introduction is free and clear, and not already in use, and conform to the A.D.S. Rules of Nomenclature, send name, description, color, type, size, and registry fee of \$1.00 to Dr. Charles H. Connors, 115 North Sixth Ave., Highland Park,

Trial Garden in Wisconsin Moves

Judge George R. Currie has notified Henry Olsen, A.D.S. Trial Garden Chairman, that the Unofficial Trial Garden located last season at the University of Wisconsin, will have a new location this season.

Dr. George E. Beck, of the Agricultural Dept. of the University, and formerly in charge of the garden, recently notified Judge Currie that the College of Agriculture would not continue the garden after 1959. Following this, Judge Curry and other officials of the Badger State Dahlia Society, sponsors of the garden, made immediate arrangements with James Marshall, Superin-

New prescription for a dahlia grower with ulcers: "Take one shaded creek bank, a fishing pole, and forget the bait."

tendant of the Madison Park Dept. for a location for the garden in one of the City Parks for 1959. A Specimen Planting of Dahlias was made in the park location last year and was most successful. This Unofficial A. D. S. Trial Garden was started last spring. The garden, if approved by A. D. S., will become Official for the season of 1960. (A two-year test period is required before Official status can be approved, in such cases).

Growers who wish to send their seedlings for trial there in 1959, should write to George R. Currie, 4130 Manitou Way, Madison 5, Wisconsin.

DAHLIA PLANTS AT THEIR BEST

Although we had some severe winter losses from "Crown Rot," we have a very promising lot of plants for this current season.

For those who may find it convenient to call here and pick up plants we will reward them with "extras" because of the time and labor saved that would otherwise be required in packing and preparing plants for mailing.

Our current catalog still available.

Parrella Dahlia Gardens

3380 Ely Ave., New York 69, N. Y. (Bronx)

The AMERICAN DAHLIA SOCIETY, Inc.

Organized May 10, 1915



"The Society is formed for the purpose of stimulating interest in and promoting the culture and development of the Dahlia; to establish a standard nomenclature; to test out new varieties and give them such recognition as they deserve; to study the diseases of the Dahlia and find remedies for same, and to disseminate information relating to this flower; to secure uniformity in awarding prizes at flower shows, and to give exhibitions when deemed advisable."

BERTRAM E. PITT, *President*

9730-123rd St., Richmond Hill 19, N. Y.

EDWARD B. LLOYD, *Secretary*

10 Crestmont Road, Montclair, N. J.

HARRY DREYER, *Treasurer*

431 Lincoln Ave., Ridgewood, N. J.

LYNN B. DUDLEY, *Editor, Bulletin*

25 Irving Pl., New Rochelle, N. Y.

Editorial

Big losses from root and crown fungus this winter are reported from many sections of the country. This may have been due to early frosts last fall, or the fact that roots were not ripened-off properly before storage.

The A.D.S. has at last made a move to establish a Research Fund. All members of the Society, all Participating Societies and Affiliated Societies are

earnestly urged to make contributions to this fund. See article on this subject in this issue.

Have you forgotten to renew your membership to the A.D.S.? Maybe you owe for 1958 or part of it, too. Harry A. Dreyer, the new A.D.S. Treasurer, address, 431 Lincoln Ave., Ridgewood, N. J. would be pleased to have you send your dues promptly when you get the statement from him. A.D.S. is a non-profit organization, where every officer, committee member, and this Editor contributes their time. You get a lot for your \$4.00. Keep those dues coming in.

And if you have lost some clumps of your favorite dahlias, why not answer some of the advertisers in this issue and stock up with some new varieties? Do it NOW.

At least eight shows this fall will be staged in New Shopping Centers. For the first time the A.D.S. and the Dahlia Society of N. J. will jointly stage theirs in the Garden State Plaza, N. J. on Sept. 23-24, (later than previously,) for the first time in such a setting. Such a move benefits the Centers, whose big objective is to draw larger and larger crowds. And it should benefit the societies by increasing the number of visitors who are perhaps exposed to the lure of dahlias for the first time; reducing the cost of staging show; and providing ample exhibit and set-up space as well as ample, free parking.

Help Promote A.D.S. Research

All A.D.S. Participating and Affiliated Societies are urged either individually or collectively to contribute to the A.D.S. Research Fund. It would be a great service to dahlia progress if this important Research Program could be discussed at society meetings and committees be appointed to cooperate in the plan. It is possible that members of the Research Committee might arrange to attend certain meetings of societies near them, to explain details of the Program, and why funds are essential to its success. (Write Chairman Arthur Mason, 3935 6th St. So., Arlington 4, Va. for details.)

A.D.S. Committees – for 1959

As Appointed by President Bertram E. Pitt, (with Additions)

NOMENCLATURE

Dr. C. H. Connors, Chairman
E. B. Lloyd

CLASSIFICATION

C. M. Diffenderffer, Chairman
Henry A. Olsen
J. Louis Roberts
C. H. Rike, M.D.
B. Preas, M.D.
J. Sherwood, Alternate

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SHOW SET UP AND BREAK UP

Members Show Committee and
Messrs. Gambi, Stone, Dreyer
and Brinkman

Nationwide Dahlia Society News

CLOSING DATES FOR REPORTS

Jan. 10 for Feb. issue

April 10 for May issue

July 10 for Aug. issue

Oct. 10 for Nov. issue

Please send Reports by the above dates if you wish them included in following issue.

ALSO — Make Them Brief.

AND — Typewritten.

LENGTH — Participating, not over 270 words, 45 lines of type — 5 inches. Affiliated, not over 180 words, 30 lines of type, or 3½ inches. Count 6 words typewritten, as one line of 8 point type as printed in the Bulletin.)

Greater Pittsburg Dahlia Society

Plans are about consummated for the Mid-West Show and Conference to be held Sept. 12th and 13th at Penn-Sheraton Hotel. President Koenig phoned the Editor April 13th to give us the latest details.

On Thursday, Sept. 10th, a special tour for early arrivals has been arranged, leaving the Hotel at 1:30 P.M. to take a bus tour to the H. J. Hines plant. It is expected that samples of the many products made by Hines will be served. This does not mean that the guests will return to the Hotel with their lips puckered, as if they were ready to kiss someone. There are sweet pickles in the line, too.

On Friday, guests will leave the Hotel at 9:00 A.M. for a bus tour of the city and environs with stops at many dahlia gardens. Lunch will be served the visitors at the home of President and Mrs. Koenig, 2309 Bethel Church Rd., Bethel Park, Pa., about 7 miles from the city.

The wind-up dinner will be served in the Urban Room, on the 17th floor of the Penn-Sheraton promptly at 6:30.

Paul Hale, Business Manager of "The Dahlia" and a Vice-President of the A.D.S. will be the guest speaker, and both the speaker and President Koenig assure visitors the speech will be short. Music and other entertainment will be provided.

The Greater Pittsburgh Society has not been listed as a participating Society of the A. D. S. for the past two years. But this Bulletin is glad to print the news of this Mid-West show in the interest of co-operation. We hope that Pittsburgh will again join the 50 other societies working with the A. D. S. for the advancement of dahlia progress.

New Society Formed in Conn.

It might be of interest to A. D. S. Membership to learn that twelve growers of Greater Waterbury Area decided to hold meeting Feb. 21st for purpose of organizing a Dahlia Society. First business was to select name for Society, which was voted unanimously to be known as Connecticut Dahlia Society.

Paul Smith was elected to serve as First President and Mr. Andrews as Secretary and Treasurer.

The new Society members voted to make plans for show for season of 1959. It was decided to hold a two day show at Waterbury Shopping Plaza on Chase Ave., Waterbury, Conn. on Sept. 9th and 10th.

Permanent meeting place was selected, located at Pet Shop on Chase Ave., Waterbury, the third Saturday in each month at 7:30 P.M. All dahlia growers are invited to attend these meetings and participate in Society activities.

On March 21st the second meeting took place, at which 25 attended and all became members. President Paul Smith addressed members and stated that the Shopping Plaza was underwriting the Show's expense, and merchants were donating prizes for various classes. Short talks on phases of dahlia culture and showmanship and colored slides provided entertainment. Lady members served coffee and cake which was welcomed by all male members.

We have done some research and find that Connecticut Dahlia Society is second Dahlia Society to be ever formed in New England States. Massachusetts Society was first formed which has been inactive for a number of years.

We are in hopes of, and looking forward to the time, as the Society grows, to have it become a Participating or an Affiliated Society of the A. D. S.—Walter Hardisty, Show Chairman, Waterbury, Conn.

Oldest Dahlia Society in U.S. Snohomish Co. Dahlia Society

The Snohomish County Dahlia Society, will hold its annual Dahlia Show on Aug. 22 and 23, 1959 at Floral Hall, Forest Park, Everett, Wash.

This is its Golden Anniversary (50 years) and being the oldest Dahlia Society in the United States, it would like to pay the highest tribute to its Founder and First President, Mrs. F. P. Sawyer, who still resides at 1710 Colby Ave., Everett, ash. She is the sole survivor of the first group of Dahlia Lovers in the Pacific Northwest, who formed our society.

After interviewing our first President, Mrs. Sawyer, and hearing from her the story of the beginning of our society, we feel highly honored to be members of this Society.

According to Mrs. Sawyer, prior to 1909, Dahlias were shown at the County Fairs, and it was then that she and a group of exhibitors formed the Society. So in 1909, the first Snohomish County Dahlia Society showing began, the first show was held in an old store building in Everett, Wash. The paper mills in the locality furnished paper to cover the rough planks and boxes used for tables, the dairies loaned milk bottles in which to display the Dahlias.

Mrs. Sawyer said, "the show was a great success." The regular monthly meetings were held in the members' homes, and their one special guest speaker who would come to the meetings, was Chief Shelton, the Chief of the Shelton Tribe, of Indians. Mrs. Sawyer has a beautiful scrap book which has all the above information in it, we enjoyed seeing it, as it authenticates the society's history.

Mrs. Sawyer is still a Dahlia enthus-

iaist and would like to see greater membership in all Dahlia Societies. In her comments she says, "Give the Junior Divisions more prominence in our shows, thus creating an interest among the Juniors to build good citizens, and they in turn will keep the Dahlia Societies going."

Our society extends a cordial invitation to all visitors who may be in Washington in August to come and see our Golden Anniversary showing of The Snohomish Dahlia Society.—Mr. and Mrs. Wm. J. Reeve, 14010 55th Avenue, W. Edmunds, Wash.

National Capital Dahlia Society

Our Show is scheduled for Sept. 26 and 27, 1959, in the U. S. Botanic Gardens at the foot of Capitol Hill. Show Chairman Orman Schneeman, is proceeding in his quiet, efficient way to make the Show one of the largest and best in the United States. As usual, we hope to be host to a battery of the most outstanding dahlia judges in the East, and intend to have a prominent person to open the Show. Anyone in auto, train or plane distance of the Nation's Capital is invited to plan now to include our Show in their vacation itinerary whether they can bring their prize blooms or not.

In addition to root sales and other usual springtime activities, our President, "Johnny" Gilmer has under way many other projects such as an educational program for beginners (Jim Browning), a booklet on dahlia culture (Clarence Philip), membership list (Thomas Yano), a film library (Maynard Heins), articles of incorporation and change in constitution and bylaws (Clarence Phillip), and a School of Instruction for Judging Dahlias in Shows (Carl Greimel). Give us good weather and we'll have a great season!

While located in Washington, D. C., our normal activities include nearby Maryland and Virginia. But through the medium of our monthly publication, the Dahliagram, edited by Bill Mason, we have members in most every state and in many foreign countries. It's one way the dahlia lover, regardless of where he lives, can keep in touch with his favorite flower and others who grow it, the whole year 'round. — Carl R. Greimel, 6369 Ridge Dr., Washington, D. C.

Ohio Valley Dahlia Asso.

Andrew F. Doermann, Dahlia Pioneer

On November 28th the members of the Ohio Valley Dahlia Association were saddened to learn of the death of one of their fellow members, Andrew F. Doermann, 51, of Cheviot, Ohio. He was a victim of leukemia, an illness which lasted 16 weeks. He was a charter member of the Ohio Valley Dahlia Assn. Andy grew up with, and was a student of the Dahlia all of his life, and as a consequence was probably one of the more, (if not the most), well informed dahlia lovers in the Cincinnati area. He gave many lectures on dahlias around the country and appeared several times on WKRC-TV Green Thumb Program. He was editor of the OVDA's monthly bulletin until its expiration. He was also editor of Nature's Gardener.

He also wrote and frequently submitted articles on dahlias and other garden subjects to the local newspapers. His other writings include an unpublished highly technical reference book dealing with "The Classification and Nomenclature of Lilies and Amaryllids."

At one time Andrew grew in addition to dahlias, a great many amaryllis and gladiolas and for many years commercialized and published a list, the slogan of which was "The Home of the Ball Dahlia." But more recently he devoted his time to dahlias, ismenes, vegetables and organiculture.

Andy possessed that unusual quality of being able to disagree without being disagreeable and as one of his good friends and fellow members, J. R. Carlisle, put it, "We could argue almost to the point of blows and still emerge good friends." His chief loves were his books, his animals and the lasting friendships he cultivated through the garden clubs and flower shows.

An American Holly will be planted in his memory in the Anderson Township Holy Aboretum at Forestville, Ohio, by the Men's Garden Club of Cincinnati of which he was also a charter member. He is survived by his 83 year old mother, Mrs. Jennie Doermann with whom he lived.—Elizabeth Geismann, Secty.

Inglewood Dahlia Society

Inglewood Dahlia Society will hold its 28th annual show at the Armory, 111 Grosvenor St., Inglewood, on August 15-16, 1959.

An invitation is extended to all who might be visiting the Los Angeles area at that time. The Armory at Inglewood is just twelve miles from the heart of downtown Los Angeles and two miles from the International Airport.

To encourage the novice who has won his first blue ribbon but who hesitates to take the second step to compete with seasoned amateurs, an entirely new division is being added to the schedule. It's for advanced novices, those who do not grow more than 75 hills and have not previously won sweepstakes in the novice class.

This has met with great favor among our newer exhibitors and we're hoping it will prove successful.—Mrs. F. C. McKelvey, Cor. Sec'y, 962 Franklin St., Santa Monica, Calif.



North Jersey Dahlia Society

Plans for the tenth annual flower show to be held on Sept. 5th and 6th are nearing completion. Due to the need for larger quarters the show will move into the Grange Hall, Hamburg Turnpike, Wayne; just about a quarter mile down the street from the old show spot. In the new location, there is plenty of parking space, lots of room under big shady trees to set up the flowers and plenty of room inside the Grange building for exhibits, all on one floor.

The scoring committee has been diligently working on a system which would save some time in scoring points after judging. This has always been a long drawn out procedure involving several committeemen and about three hours. The newspapers rush a reporter to the show to get full information, before the scoring is completed.

There will be a seedling named this year for Grace Peterson, wife of the Chairman of the Board, 1st National Bank of Passaic County. The Bank is one of our sponsors. This will mark the third year of exchanging medals. We are very proud to have so many societies exchanging with us.—Everett T. Church, 1480 Alps Rd., Patterson 2, N. J.

Alabama Dahlia News

The Twenty-Fourth Annual Show of the Dahlia Society of Alabama will be held Sept. 26th-27th at the Thomas Jefferson Hotel in Birmingham. E. K. Henderson is Show Chairman with T. A. Kennedy as Co-Chairman. Plans are well in hand—now to getting the best blooms yet.

Attendance at meetings has been unusually good. A. H. West, our program chairman, has seen to it that we have had good speakers, interesting slide pictures and provocative panel discussions. He has been well assisted by the telephone committee.

On all sides we hear—get young members, we need them—so we do, all ages are needed. This we have tried to do. Now, let me introduce to you, one, whom we believe is the youngest full fledged member of a dahlia society in the U.S.A. He is George Stritikus, a seventeen year old high school student. George is really serious about flowers and dahlias in particular. He is anxious to know more about them, for he reads, studies and works with flowers every spare minute. He attends all the meetings and whatever there is to be done in the Society you can always count on George. Do you have such a younger member?

And as to the oldsters? About a year and a half ago, there came into our Society a retired navy man, F. W. Chambers, who had returned to his native Alabama to live. He had grown dahlias near San Diego, California, and was eager to do the same here. He seldom misses a meeting, though to do so he must drive around eighty miles. We feel sure that one of these days he will let us in on some of California's technique. Now if you are coming our way at show time, drop by and see us.—Maud Goodwin, Reporter.

Michigan Dahlia Association

The officers of the Michigan Dahlia Association for the year 1959 are as follows: President, Ralph I. Bowman, 321 Coler Street, Jackson, Michigan; Vice President, Harold J. Wisnecki, 1046 Beechwood NE, Grand Rapids 5, Michigan; Executive Secretary, Mrs. Arthur J. Wulff, 15170 Garfield Rd.,

Detroit 39, Michigan; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Ralph Etienne, 727 Barrett Street, Jackson, Michigan; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Ralph Bowman, Jackson, Michigan; Treasurer, C. J. Addington, 16742 Lamphere, Detroit 19, Michigan; and Director of Publications, Dr. C. E. Wildon, 823 Huntington Rd., East Lansing, Michigan. The Trustees are: Carl Sattler, Ralph Etienne, Raymond Olson, Victor Steckle, Arthur Wulff, and Herman Rhode.

The officers are planning a membership campaign and a Dahlia Auction and White Elephant Sale on May 2, 1959. The Auction will be held in the Horticulture Building, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan at 7:00 P.M., featuring sensational varieties, special collections of roots, and plant materials of all kinds.—Marjorie Bowman, 321 Coler St., Jackson, Mich.

Baltimore Dahlia Society

The Baltimore Dahlia Society held its annual election and the following were elected to office for 1959—President: Paul Hunter; 1st Vice President, Louis Gill; 2nd Vice President, Gabriel Pantelis; Treasurer, Otto Weber; Financial Sec'y, Mrs. Dorothy Sherwood; Secretary, Herbert O. Auburn; Assist. Sect'y, Mrs. Edna Fordney. Executive Committee—John Sherwood, chairman; Chas. M. Diffendriffer, C. V. Brieger, H. R. Caldabaugh, Robt. Edmonston, Arnold Hens, Wm. Rau, R. Schwanabeck and August Traupe.

Plans are being completed for our 34th Annual Show which will be held in the Eastpoint Auditorium, Baltimore, Md.—September 19th and 20th, 1959. President Hunter appointed Louis Gill as chairman of the Show Committee and Mrs. Louis Gill will again be chairman of the Hardy Garden Section. Mr. Gill and his committee have started on their plans and we are assured of another outstanding show. There seems to be an unusual amount of interest amongst the members this year and finer and larger planting can be expected. Mark our dates September 19th and 20th on your calendar and plan to show with us.—H. O. Auburn, Secretary, 610 West Pratt Street, Zone 1.

Dahlia Society of Ohio

The Dahlia Society of Ohio has changed their Show date from Sept. 21st and 22nd to Sept. 14th and 15th, 1959. The Show is scheduled for Higbees's Auditorium in Cleveland, Ohio.

With the arrival of warm weather in this area, attendance is increasing at our meetings. Mr. Ed Papesh, program chairman has an interesting schedule of Lectures, Films, Slides and talks by various members on tab for the year '59.

Show Chairman, Mr. Graham is working hard to make this coming show the best on record. There is one important change so, Dahlia Fanciers, please note the above change in dates.

The Mid West Show scheduled in Pittsburgh, Sept. 12th and 23th is only a short drive from Cleveland. This is a good opportunity to see two Dahlia Shows in a period of four days. An invitation is extended to all Dahlia friends to attend. A few specimen blooms for exhibition will be appreciated.

The Garden Center in Wade Park is the site for our October Show. This show will feature specimen blooms in which entries are limited to members only. The show is open to the public Oct. 3rd and 4th.

Here's hoping that this year proves to be your finest Dahlia year and your exhibits are successful in winning that trophy or ribbon. — Nicholas Kozopas, 131 Eldred Ave., Bedford, Ohio.

Bergen Co. Dahlia Society

The Twelfth Annual Dahlia Show of the Bergen County Dahlia Society will be held Saturday, September 19th, and Sunday, September 20th, at the Bergen Mall Exhibition Hall, Route 4, Paramus, N. J. This is indeed a new venture for the members of the Bergen County Dahlia Society, as we have never before held a show in a shopping center. Our attendance should run into the thousands. Both our Show Chairman Joseph Gambi and co-chairman Wm. Neckerman feel this will be one of our best shows. Publicity — Mrs. Carolyn Dreyer, 431 Lincoln Ave., Ridgewood, N. J.

Midwest Dahlia Conference

The 26th Annual meeting of the Midwest Dahlia Conference will be held in Pittsburgh, Pa., at the Penn-Sheraton Hotel on Saturday, Sept. 12th, 1959 at 5:00 P.M.

All Affiliated Societies please appoint your delegates who will attend the meeting. I would appreciate very much if the Secretaries would forward their names to me as soon as possible.

Looking forward to a good representation at the meeting and also the Midwest Dahlia Show.—Mrs. Louise Kleinhohn, Secretary, 726 Barret Avenue, Louisville 4, Ky.

Seattle Dahlia Society

Includes "BB" Class in P.N. Con. Show

A Special Meeting of the Pacific Northwest Dahlia Conference was called by the President, Mr. Wm. Owens, on March 21st. This meeting was held at the University of Washington Arboretum Clubhouse in Seattle. The Arboretum was beautiful with its many flowering trees and shrubs and a bright sunny spring day welcomed the guests when they arrived at 1 P.M. Five of the seven societies of the Conference were represented. Delegates were present from Tacoma, Everett, Bremerton, Portland, Ore., and Seattle.

One of the important matters approved at this meeting was that the "BB" size dahlia will now be included in the Conference Show Schedule, in both single and triple entries; and each hosting society will have the privilege of selecting a Novice Section which best suits them. Mrs. Frances McDuffee, Editor of The Pacific Dahlia, from Portland, gave an interesting report on the Pacific Southwest Dahlia Conference meeting in San Diego, Calif., which she attended recently.

A recess was called at 3 P.M. at which time a lovely buffet lunch was served by women from the Seattle Society. Mrs. Madge Kershisnik, Portland, reported on plans for Judging Schools. The meeting adjourned at 5:40 P.M. A no-host dinner followed at Shroyers Chicken Dinner Inn.—Mrs. Helen McCrea, Rec. Secy., 6845—35th Ave., N. E., Seattle, 15, Wash.

Greater Phila. Dahlia Society

Our plans are well underway to hold an outstanding Dahlia Show in the spacious lobby of WCAU Radio & Television Center, City Line and Monument Ave., Phila., Pa., under the guidance of our Show Chairman, Fred Moore. The Show dates are, Saturday, Sept. 19 and Sunday, Sept. 20.

As usual our 1959 Show Schedule will include classes for all types of Dahlias; the prize list includes Cash, Trophies, American Home Achievement Medal, ADS Seedling Sweep-stake awards, Rosettes and prize Ribbons; there will also be a Special Award in the NON-MEMBERSHIP Class.

Information on the Show may be obtained by contacting our Sec'y. Mrs. N. L. Wright, 6926 Ridge Ave., Phila., 28 Pa.

The Show will be extensively advertised by Radio and Television; Go America and make Greater Phila. Dahlia Society Show a must on your Schedule of Shows this year.—Mrs. N. L. Wright, Secretary, 6926 Ridge Ave., Philadelphia 28, Pa.

Dahlia Society of Kentucky, Inc.

The Dahlia Society of Kentucky will hold their 27th Annual Dahlia Show at the Kentucky Hotel, Louisville, Ky., on Sept. 19th-20th.

At our April meeting we are planning to have a Root Sale. In January, we had the privilege of seeing colored slides, some of the Midwest Show of 1958 and some from several gardens of our members, which is always interesting. Visitors are always welcome at our Show and if you happen to be in Louisville or anywhere near, drop around and visit with us. A hearty welcome awaits you.—Louise Kleinjohn, Secretary.

Southe'strn Mich. Dahlia Society

The 7th Annual Show will be held on Saturday 12th, and Sunday 13th of September, at the O'Shea Memorial Gymnasium in Detroit. This is the second year for us in this lovely new building. Last year's attendance was record-

breaking, and the new Show Committee is already busy with plans for making this year's show more beautiful than ever!

We will have our Show Schedule ready shortly, and if anyone would like to have a copy, please do not hesitate to send in your request to the undersigned.—Mrs. David Millar, Rec. Sec'y, 15848 Pinehurst Ave., Detroit 38, Mich.

Dahlia Society of Tennessee

Here are the officers recently elected for 1959 to serve this Society.

President, John R. Cooley; First Vice Pres., T. G. Hixon; Second V. P., M. L. Sparks; Third V. P., E. B. King; Fourth V. P., J. E. Broyles; Treasurer, H. L. Whittaker; Secretary, Mrs. T. G. Hixon; Cor. Sec'y., Mrs. O. H. Nolan.

Our Show dates for 1959 are September 19-20, and the exhibition will be staged as usual at the Hotel Patten.—Mrs. T. G. Hixon, 321 McBrien Rd., Chattanooga, Tenn.

Long Island Dahlia Society

Our Show Committee, headed by Mr. Robert Pape, has functioned efficiently as usual and has arranged an excellent location for the 1959 Long Island Dahlia Society Show, which will be held at the Green Acres Shopping Center, Valley Stream, L. I., N. Y. on Saturday, September 19th, from 10 A.M. to 10 P.M. and Sunday, September 20th, from 10 A.M. to 6 P.M. It is felt that this prominent location, directly accessible from Sunrise Highway, will do much to promote a full attendance.

Enthusiasm for the forthcoming Show was further stimulated by an informative talk given by Member Bert Pitt on the availability of new and old dahlia varieties of show calibre.—Mrs. Russell Holslag, Sec'y, 547 Parkside Blvd., Massapequa, N. Y.

BIG JOINT DAHLIA SHOW

New Jersey and A.D.S.

Sept. 23-23 Garden State Plaza
Paramus, N. J.

D A H L I A S

By Dahliadel

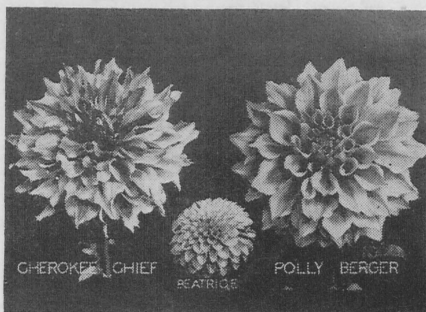
Our **\$1 SPECIALS** are selling far ahead of expectations, but we still have enough stock for late comers. List contains such outstanding favorites as **Mary Elizabeth**, **Pride of Parkersburg**, **Kelvin**, **Silver Wedding**, and all roots priced at \$1 each for the first time. Many are newer Australian varieties in plants which until recently were much higher in price, and most satisfactory grown here. Still have good stock of the popular Miniaures and BB size, the finest collection offered anywhere. However we are already running short on some of the newest pompons. Send for the 16 page Supplement of the newest and very best in Dahlias, and our 1958 Catalog of 48 pages, with cultural instructions, altogether listing 775 varieties. Don't delay.

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Special Collection of 8 varieties, 1 plant of each, or 2 rooted cuttings each of the following: **GRAND CANYON**, Incurved, beautiful rose and salmon buff; **ILLINOIS**, Decorative, sulphur yellow; **LAVENDER DREAM**, Spider, lavender pink for cutting; **MARY PALMOUR**, Incurved, mallow purple, lighter reverse; **MINNESOTA**, Decorative, blush white fine for disbudding; **NORTHWESTERN**, Incurved, Indian orange yellow reverse. A favorite football variety; **STYLISH**, Decorative, Dusty Tyrian pink; **WISCONSIN**, Incurved, Wonderful Chinese yellow with bronze overtone.

Sent Special Handling and Postpaid, \$5.00



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CHEROKEE CHIEF A ID Rose. Root \$15 net
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HENCKEL IMPORTED SHEARS. Double cutting pruning shears especially desirable for dividing and trimming dahlia clumps. The shear we have been using for many years. Suitable for general pruning. 8 3/4".

Postpaid, \$8.00

CARL ENDLEIN DOUBLE CUTTER IMPORTED SHEARS. The same pattern as 11" notch Shears with blades 1/4" shorter and slightly heavier. A precision shear made of wonderful steel at a special price.

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NATRIPHENE. A safe to use, and dependable Fungicide for dipping all cut portions of dahlia roots before planting. Box of 8 tablets makes 16 gals. of dip.

Postpaid, \$1.10

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